India since Independence

Chronology of Events 1979

VIMLA KAUL

Vol. 4

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On 15 August 1947 the tricolour banner of ind[illegible] was hoisted over the [illegible] Red Fort in Delhi. [illegible] beginning of the [illegible] rediscover itself. The [illegible] is crowded with events [illegible] in every walk of life. [illegible]ative, statesmen, research [illegible]nts, teachers, journalists and [illegible] look round for the correct date of [illegible]rtant—some times not—important—event which is just not available easily.

India Since Independence is published with the object of providing handy reference to the chronology of events in the country. These volumes of the compilation, the first covering the events from August 15, 1947 to December 31, 1966, the second covering the decade 1967-77 and the third covering the events of 1978 have already been published. The fourth volume contains a descriptive chronology of national events of the year 1979. The events given in these volumes are based on press reports. A consolidated index has been provided to add to its utility.

This unique four volume publication is independent India's history in dates. A most dependable, invaluable and indispensable companion to editors, planners, executives, statesmen, research workers, students, teachers, journalists and many others who look round for the correct date of an important event which is just not available easily.

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पुस्तकालय विभाग
गुरुकुल कांगडी विश्वविद्यालय, हरिद्वार

वर्ग संख्या R 954.04 K16D4 आगत संख्या 75481

पुस्तक वितरण की तिथि सहित 15 वें दिन तक यह पुस्तक पुस्तकालय में वापिस आ जानी चाहिए। अन्यथा 10 पैसे के हिसाब से विलम्ब दण्ड देय होगा।

- 4 OCT 1983
G.A. 22/22

पुस्तकालय विभाग

Stock Verification-2024

Stock Verification-2024

Samaj Publications
Price
Rs. 120/-
New Delhi

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R954.04, K16I-4
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SAGAR PUBLICATIONS
72, JANPATH, VED MANSION
NEW DELHI-110001

First Edition : August 1980

© Mrs. Vimla Kaul

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954.04
K16I.4

Volume 1 : 1947-1966

Volume 2 : 1967-1977

Volume 3 : 1978

Volume 4 : 1979

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पुस्तक सं०......
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गुरुकुल कांगड़ी विश्वविद्यालय

Published by N.K. Sagar for Sagar Publications & Printed at Sagar Printers
and Publishers, 1880 Udaichand Marg, Kotla Mubarakpur,
New Delhi-110003. Phone : 618484

INDIA SINCE INDEPENDENCE

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PREFACE

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New Delhi
August, 1980

(Mrs) Vimla Kaul

1979

January 1 The All-India Youth Unity Forum, a new non-political organisation aiming at "utilising the youth power to conduct socially-useful projects" was launched.

— The Chief Justice of the Karnataka High Court appointed M.N. Venkatachaliah, as the Election Judge, to try the two petitions challenging the election of Indira Gandhi to the Lok Sabha from Chikmagaloor.

— Delhi won the C.K. Nayudu Trophy for schools defeating Gujarat by an innings and 90 runs.

— Dr. L.A. Ramdas (78), former Head of Heat and Power Division of National Physical Laboratory, died. He was an emiritus scientist of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research from 1963 to 1971.

— The exise levy on Khandsari was completely abolished with immediate effect.

— Gurbaksh Singh (Makhmoor Jullundri) news editor of daily Milap, died. He was 65. Gurbaksh Singh had many detective novels to his credit under the psedonym of Col. Ranjit. A progressive writer and poet, he was the President of Milap Workers Union.

— Indian National Science Academy (INSA) announced awards for Prof. G.P. Talwar of All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Prof. M.G. Deo of Cancer Research Institute, Prof. E.C.S. Sudershan of Indian Institute of Science of work on Particle Physics, and Dr. C. Ambasankaran of the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre.

— Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister V.K. Saklecha dedicated to the people the Rs. 1-crore overbridge at Indore named after Sardar Patel. The 475-metre bridge has been built over the railway line passing through the business area of Siyagunj in the heart of the city.

— President Sanjiva Reddy inaugurated the International Year of the Child at the National Stadium in New Delhi. About

January 1 30,000 school children watched the colourful rally in which 8,000 school children took part.

— The second 200 mw unit at Obra thermal power station, the heart line of electricity supply in UP, was successfully launched in Lucknow.

2 About 8,000 Air-India employees, belonging to technical and non-technical categories resorted to a work-to-rule agitation demanding an interim relief of Rs. 200 per month.

— Karuna Shankar Bhattacharjee (better known as "Habla" in the sports circle), died. He was 99. Karuna, a great footballer who played in the inside-forward position, led the Indian XI to the Australian tour in 1938 and also visited South Africa with the Indian side in 1934.

— An official release issued at the conclusion of discussions between the delegations of India and Bangladesh at New Delhi said that several outstanding issues between the Indian and Bangladesh Railways have been settled.

— Officially stated that the World Bank has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 10 crores for implementation of drinking water supply scheme for 175 villages in Hissar and Sirsa districts of Haryana.

Skipper Sunil Gavaskar (Cricket) became the only batsman in the world to make a century in each innings of three tests. He was playing in the third cricket test match against the West Indies at Calcutta.

— Subscriber trunk dialling between Vijayawada and New Delhi was inaugurated.

— To mark the "International Year of the Child", the Life Insurance Corporation of India introduced a new policy called the "Children's anticipated policy." This is a "with profits" policy which can be purchased by a parent or a near relative for a child upto the age of 14 years. The policy provides for a lump sum cash payment at the pre-selected age of 18 to 21 (the vesting age) to meet the expenses of education or marriage or start-in-life.

— The U.S. dollar has become cheaper by 10 paise following the revision by the Reserve Bank of India of the rates for buying.

3 The Dutch (Netherlands) Government agreed to provide assistance amounting to Rs. 17.94 crores upon the Dutch Credit Scheme for the supply of portable water in six districts of Uttar Pradesh. About 800 villages in Rae Bareli, Allahabad, Varanasi, Mathura, Agra and Etawah districts will be benefitted by this assistance.

— Eleven top Congress (I) leaders of Punjab including Zail Singh, former Chief Minister and Dr. G.S. Dhillon, former Lok

Januray	3	Sabha Speaker, were arrested outside the residence of the Punjab Chief Minister, P.S. Badal. They had launched dharna to protest against the attitude of the State Government towards the Satyagrahis arrested during the agitation against the jailing and expulsion of Indira Gandhi from the Lok Sabha.
	—	K.R. Narayanan took over as the Vice-Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University.
	—	The Mica Trading Corporation of India and the Polish State Trading Corporation signed an agreement at Calcutta for the export of Mica worth Rs. 66 lakh to Poland between January and June 1979.
	—	Parashuram Chaturvedi, a notable Hindi litterateur died at Lucknow. The Uttar Pradesh Government had awarded him a cash prize of Rs. 15,000 in 1975 for his services to the cause of Hindi.
	—	Prime Minister Morarji Desai inaugurated the 66th session of the Indian Science Congress at Osmania University, Hyderabad. President Sanjiva Reddy inaugurated the Seventh International Film Festival by lighting the traditional brass lamp in the presence of a large gathering of film personalities from India and abroad.
	—	Prof. A.K. Dasgupta of Jawaharlal Nehru University has been honoured by the London School of Economics by electing him as an honorary fellow of the School.
	—	The third cricket test played between India and West Indies ended in a draw. The match was played in Eden Gardens in Calcutta.
	4	An agreement on terms and procedures relating to the Indo-Swedish Development Corporation programme was signed in New Delhi between India and Sweden. Undert he agreement Sweden will continue to give technical assistance to India for various development sectors. The assistance provides for the services of experts, supply of equipment and scholarship to Indians. It will help smooth implementation of Sweden-aided projects and the new projects to be taken up in coming year.
	—	D.T. Rupawate, Joint Secretary of the AICC, resigned because of the "Partisan Stand" taken by the Congress President, Swaran Singh, on the proposed convention of Congressmen in Bombay on January 7. In a press statement, D.T. Rupawate said there is no question of indiscipline involved in participating in the convention, as convention is not against "unity as such."
	—	A division bench of the Supreme Court dismissed a writ petition challenging the election of Indira Gandhi from the Chikmagaloor Parliamentaty constituency in Karnataka. The

January 4 election was challenged by one of the 28 candidates who contested the election on November 5, 1978, on the ground that the election was not held in accordance with the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

— Mauritius became the first country to buy Indian rice when an agreement to import 24,000 tonnes was signed in New Delhi between the representatives of the two Governments

— The Union Cabinet approved the proposal of the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) to expand its liquified petroleum gas (Cooking fuel) network by 1.75 million customers in five years. The additional requirement to gas will be met from refinery under construction at Mathura (2 lakh tonnes), Koyali (1.20 lakh tonnes) and Bombay High (1.68 lakh tonnes). The entire scheme will cost Rs. 84.28 crores, but IOC will invest only Rs. 35.17 crores. The balance will come through consumers deposits.

5 Chief Ministers conference was inaugurated by the Prime Minister Morarji Desai in New Delhi. The Chief Ministers agreed to implement the Union Civil Supplies production-cum-distribution scheme for essential commodities and thee xport promotion programme from Ist July. Under the scheme State Government agencies and corporations will undertake to distribute grain, soft coke, Kerosene and controlled cloth and a Central Committee will be set up to examine what other items should be added to the list.

— In West Bengal, Jute mill workers of 59 operating mills of the State began indefinite strike on a call given by 13 major trade unions, including the CITU, the AITUC, the INTUC and the HMS. Their demands include increased emoluments and better service conditions.

— Krishnavadun Joshi and Jayendra Pandit, both Janata were re-elected Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Ahmedabad (Gujarat).

— The management of Nigeria Railway Corporation (NRC) handed over to the Rail India Technical and Economic Service limited (RITES) under a three-year agreement. According to the agreement the Nigerian Government invited the Indian Organisation to take over the management and technical support for NRC to correct the Corporations "Catalogue of operational deficiencies".

— Rohini 200, the first experimental rocket (MONEX) was successfully launched from the Thumba rocket launching station. The rocket will observe the velocity of wind, cyclone formations and other weather conditions.

— S.G. Murugaiyyan, CPI member of the Lok Sabha, was stabbed to death at Sithamalli near Mannargudi in Thanjavur district.

— Over 50 people were killed and an unspecified number injured when nearly 200 former Naga rebels in a three hour raid

January 5 showered bullets on five villages in Assam's Golaghat subdivision bordering Nagaland.

— The World Bank and its affiliate, the International Development Association (IDA) have approved loans totalling $ 250 million to help India to increase power generating capacity. This loan will help finance the construction of the first three generating units with a total capacity of 600 MW and the provision of ancillary equipment at the Ramagundam thermal power station in Andhra. The project also includes constructions of 1200 km. of 400 kw transmission. The World Bank loan is repayable in 20 years. The IDA credit is for 50 years.

6 Five people were killed when a jeep carrying 12 passengers collided with a truck on Ratu road in Ranchi.

— Lt. General J. C. Chatterji, Chief Consultant (Medicine) in the Directorate-General of the Armed Force Medical Services, has been appointed honorary Surgeon to the President.

— A three-member delegation led by N.M. Qureshi, Chairman, Pakistan Central Board of Revenue arrived in New Delhi for a five-day visit to India for discussion with the Indian counterparts on matters relating to customs procedures, measures to check smuggling and mutual cooperation in this regard between the two countries.

— V.V. Chari, former Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank, died. He was 65.

7 A.K. Anthony, former Chief Minister of Kerala, was unanimously elected President of the Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee.

— Amit Luthra won the coveted Junior Amateur Golf Championship which concluded in New Delhi.

— One-day Conference of Labour Ministers from the northern region—Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Delhi, opened at Chandigarh. Union Labour Minister Ravindra Varma speaking at the inaugural session stressed the need of evolving a conciliation machinery which could not only solve industrial disputes, but also be able to detect any deterioration in labour management relations.

— The one-day political conference of the Maharashtra Congressmen "Sacked" the pro-unity MPCC president, N.M. Tidke and "appointed" D.T. Rupawate, a vehement opponent of the Unity move in his place.

— Punjab girls annexed the Prince Baslatjha Trophy, symbol of women's basketball supremacy, beating Karnataka 71-55 in

January 7 the final of the National Basketball Championship. The match was played in Kottayam.

8 Four persons were killed and 15 injured when a private bus rammed into a chemist shop at Feroke near Kozhikode.

— GDR Chairman, Erich Honecker and Willi Stoph, Chairman of the Council of Ministers arrived in New Delhi on a five-day official visit. Eric Honecker met Prime Minister Morarji Desai without aides for half an hour in the afternoon. The delegation of senior GDR Ministers and officials then met the Indian side which included Foreign Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee, Defence Minister Jagjivan Ram, Industry Minister George Fernandes and Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister Purushottam Kaushik. The talks referred to the role people of both countries played in relaxing world tension and extending cooperation.

— In Bihar, the Vidhan Sabha rejected a no-confidence motion tabled jointly by all opposition group except the four member CPM group against the Government. 215 members opposed and 76 favoured the motion. The Chief Minister Karpoori Thakur asserted that the law and order situation and the atrocities against Harijans were almost of the same magnitude during the Janata regime as they were during the Congress regime from 1974 till June, 1977.

— K.K. Venugopal, 47, a senior advocate of the Supreme Court has been appointed as another Additional Solicitor-General of India.

— The Maharastra Government banned the entry into Bombay of Nirankari Chief Baba Gurbhachan Singh, who intended to visit Bombay on January 21 to hold a "Samagam".

— N.M. Tidke, President of the Maharashtra Pradesh Congress Committee expelled the PPC General Secretary, Ankushrao Tope for his participation in the Bombay Convention of Congressmen on January 7. In a telegram to the Party President Swaran Singh, he also urged him to take action against Dr. Karan Singh and Chandrajit Yadav for their participation in the Convention.

9 The Central Government announced an increase in the rate of export duty on raw cotton of the variety of "Bengal Desh" from Rs. 700 a tonne to Rs. 2,500 a tonne. The step was taken keeping in view the profit involved in the export of this variety of cotton.

— The Congress-I maintained its firm hold on Andhra Pradesh when its candidates retained both the Lok Sabha seats—Secunderabad and Siddipet (SC) and one Assembly seat, polling for which were held one 7th January. P. Shivshankar was declared elected from Secunderabad Lok Sabha constitu-

January 9 ency defeating his nearest Janata rival Mrs. T. Lakshmi Kanthamma. From Siddipet (SC) N. Yellaiah was declared elected, defeating his nearest Janata rival C. Ramachandra Rao. Satiupalli seat was won by Congress-I candidate J. Venkateswara Rao.

— The Gujarat State Janata Party Chief told newsmen that the former Chief Minister Chimanbhai Patel has been officially enrolled as member of Janata Party.

— India and the German Democratic Republic signed a long term agreement for co-operation in different spheres, which among other things, envisages the doubling of trade turn-over from the present level of Rs. 100 crore to Rs. 200 crore in the next five years and also provides for joint ventures in third countries. The agreement is valid till 1985 and specifies the modalities for implementing the various provisions of the agreement relating to cooperation in science and technology, industrial collaboration and transfer of technology. The agreement has laid down that the Indo-GDR Ministerial level Joint Commission will oversee the implementation of specific projects. Apart from this agreement, India and GDR also signed a shipping agreement.

— The Ministry of Education and Social Welfare set up a 25-member Committee to advise the Central Hindi Directorate on its schemes. It will also advise on the schemes which may be entrusted to the Directorate by the Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology. The Advisory Committee is headed by the Minister of Education, Social Welfare and Culture with the Minister of State for Education, in charge of languages.

— Rajarambapu Patil was sworn-in as Cabinet Minister in Maharashtra.

— The Vice-President of the Maharashtra Janata Party, R.A. Patil, joined the Government of Sharad Pawar as a Cabinet Minister raising the strength of the two-tier Ministry to 35.

10 Ananta Gopal Sheorey, Editor, "Nagpur Times" died. Mr. Sheorey, 67 was closely associated with the freedom struggle and was imprisoned for three years. Mr. Sheorey was a member of the Press Council of India (since abolished) and had served on the boards of the UNI, PTI and Hindustan Samachar. A reputed Hindi writer, Mr. Sheorey was President of the Sahityaka Sangam and had organized the World Hindi Convention at Nagpur in 1979.

— Dr. S.S. Verma, 55, Director General of Railway Health Services, died.

— Meeting of the National Development Councils working group on Centre-State financial relations began its two-day

January 10 sitting in New Delhi. The meeting was headed by the Deputy Chairman, Dr. D. T. Lakdawala. The Chief Ministers unanimously asked for increased central assistance, a higher share of market borrowings for their States and a sharp reduction in the number of Centrally sponsored schemes. Convincing the Chief Ministers the Deputy Chairman affirmed that they will get fair deal in the Sixth Plan.

— Miss C.B. Muthamma, High Commissioner for India to Ghana has been appointed Ambassador to Netherlands in succession to Maharaj Krishna Rasgotra and Yudhishtar Raj Dhawan, Ambassador to Mangolian Peoples Republic has been appointed Ambassador to Labanon in succession to Sumel Sinha.

— Mrs. Gayatri Devi, former Rajmata of Jaipur was appointed Chairman of the Rajasthan Tourism Directorate and the State Hotel Corporation, with a Status of a Cabinet Minister.

11 A.B.N. Sinha, former Chief Justice of the Patna High Court, was found dead.

— The President has appointed Air Marshal Jafar Zaheer as Director General of Civil Aviation.

— Sir Seewoo Sagur Ramgoolam, Prime Minister of Mauritius arrived in New Delhi on an eight-day official visit. Later he exchanged views with the Prime Minister Morarji Desai. On 12th January, he had discussions with the External Affairs Minister A.B. Vajpayee.

12 The Haryana Chief Minister, Devi Lal took over transport in a minor reshuffle of portfolios from Bir Singh who got the portfolio of Panchayat Development. The Revenue, Rehabilitation and Welfare of Scheduled Castes held by the latter was allotted to Preet Singh.

— India and Austria signed a memorandum for strengthening co-operation in science and technology. According to the memorandum, the two countries will initiate co-operation in semi-conductor and solid state physics, special steels alloys and high temperature materials, synthetic organic Chemistry of natural products, power metallurgy and solar energy.

— Mauli Chandra Sharma, a noted social worker and former Jana Sangh President died. Mr. Sharma was born in Jhajjar village and was associated with the freedom struggle and attended the Round Table conference in 1930 and 1931. He held important positions in several princely States before independence Mr. Sharma was well-known in literary circles and had been president of the sanskrit Sahitya Sammelan and General Secretary of the Hindi Sahitya Sammelan. He was one of the founders of the People's Right Committee. Mr. Sharma was a scholar of Hindi, Sanskrit, Gujarati, Punjabi, Bengali, Marathi and Urdu.

January	12	V.V. Ajmera, a social worker and industrialist, died. He was 46.
	13	Dr. Ram Chandra Adhikari, an eminent Chest specialist and founder-member of the National Medical College, died. He was 81.
	—	Justice Jagat Narain, former Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court, died at the age of 68.
	—	Nahar Singh, former ruler of Kaluhera, died. He was 68.
	14	Dr. B.N. Singh, former Director of the Defence Research Laboratory, Jodhpur, died. He was 65.
	—	President Sanjiva Reddy laid the foundation stone of the South Delhi Campus of Delhi University at Dhaula Kuan.
	—	Srinagar was for the first time linked by air with Leh, principal town of the Buddhist wonderland of Ladakh, when Indian Airlines started a weekly air service for civilians.
	15	A. Krishnaswamy Vandayar (80), Congress leader, died. He was a close associate of Mr. Kamaraj.
	—	The Janata national executive began its crucial three day session with parallel indications of sorting out the differences and hastening the process of split.
	16	India won the fourth cricket test played against West Indies in Madras.
	—	Maharaja Krishna Rasgotra, Ambasador to the Netherlands, has been appointed Ambassador to France in succession to Ramchandra Dattatraya Sathe.
	—	Thirty seven passengers were killed, 35 on the spot and two succumbed in the hospital and about 20 were injured when a Pandiyan Roadways Corporation bus of Tamil Nadu fell into a 120 metre deep ravine at Chinnakkanal gap between Santhanpara and Devicolam in the high ranges of Idukki district.
	17	Chief Minister of Karnataka expanded his Ministry and allocated Minor Irrigation to D.B. Chandra Gowda and Sericulture and Horticulture to K.B. Shivaiah, the two new Cabinet Ministers. He elevated Veerashatty Kushnoor to the Cabinet rank with the portfolio of Cooperation. N. Basavaiah, newly appointed Minister of State was attached to the Chief Minister in the Departments of Major and Medium Irrigation and "Muzrai."
	—	The curtain was rung down on the 14 day Seventh International Film Festival with the presentation of seven awards. The

January 17 Golden Peacock for the best feature of the festival went to the Hungarian entry, The Hindi feature film, "Gaman", was awarded the special jury prize. The Silver Peacock for the best director was awarded to the veteran German-born US director Billy Wilder, for his film "Fedora". The Silver Peacock for the best actor and actress was awarded to Shankar Nag and Savannah Smith respectively.

— Dr. D.C. Pavate, Ex-Governor of Punjab and a former Vice-Chancellor of the Karnataka University, died. He was 80.

— India and Bulgaria signed a five-year agreement for cooperation in science and technology covering various fields like ionospheric research, agriculture and minerals.

— India and Afghanistan exchanged letters providing for the extension of an agreement under which India is to supply 50,000 tonnes of wheat to Afghanistan. The agreement was signed in March last year and so far only 30,000 tonnes of wheat has been supplied.

— Om Mehta, Member of the Rajya Sabha and S. R. Reddy, member of the Lok Sabha were appointed as members of the Hindi Salahkar Samiti of the Ministry of Commerce, Civil Supplies and Cooperation, according to an official release.

18 The Janata Party National Executive which ended its four-day meeting in New Delhi reiterated the Party's commitment to decentralisation of economic power. The statement issued after four days of discussions designed to give "dynamic thrust" to socio economic activity, contained 22 points which the executive wanted to be implemented within a set time-frame.

— R. N. Haldipur was sworn in as Lt. Governor of Arunachal Pradesh.

19 A Japanese monk, Nichidatsu Fujii, became the first religious leader to receive the Nehru Award for International Understanding, when it was presented to him by the President in New Delhi. At 94 he is also the oldest recipient of the award.

— Madhya Pradesh district Judge R. S. Saksena, who was heading one of the three one-member commissions inquiring into the emergency excesses in the State, died after a heart attack.

— Y. Yaima Singh was sworn-in as a Cabinet Minister of Manipur.

— Sanjay Gandhi was arrested in New Delhi for failure to appear before the Lucknow Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate, V. D. Kesri, in the wine dealers case and later released on intrim bail.

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January 19 Seven people were killed and 20 injured in an explosion in a factory at Kanjur Marg (North Bombay).

— A team of Income-Tax Officers searched Mrs. Gandhi's farm in Mehrauli, New Delhi, following allegations that a treasure chest lay hidden there. But nothing incriminating was found.

20 Air Marshal Jafar Zaheer took over as Director General of Department of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation.

— Dr. K. Sivarama Karanth, the 77-year old Kannada litterateur, was presented with the 13th Jnanpith Award for his novel "Mookjiya Kanasugalu" which has been adjudged as the best creative writing in Indian languages during 1961-70 at a glittering function in Birla Matushri Sabhagar in Bombay.

— Pascal Alan Nazareth, India's Deputy High Commissioner to London has been appointed High Commissioner to Ghana in succession to Miss. Chonira Beliappa Muthamma.

— The President of the Mercare Taluk Development Board, H.S. Venkappa belonging to Congress (I) was shot dead.

21 An eight-member Parliamentary delegation from Sri Lanka led by the Minister of Irrigation and Land Development Gamini Bassanayake arrived in New Delhi at the invitation of Indian Parliament.

— S.N. Mozumdar, a retired Indian Civil Service Officer, died. He was the first Chairman of Damodar Valley Corporation and the first Managing Director of Hindustan Steel Limited. Earlier he was Secretary in the Union Ministry for Information and Broadcasting. Well known in literary and art circles, Mr. Mozumdar had been closely associated with Tagore and Jamini Ray.

— The All-India Bank employees' agitation and their proposed strike from 2nd February was called off following two rounds of talks between their representatives on the one hand and the Union Labour Minister Ravindra Varma and the Finance Minister H.M. Patel, on the other.

— S.H. Vatsyayan "Agyeya", the Hindi poet and novelist, was chosen for the Rs. 1,00,000 Jnanpith Award for 1978. The award is for his collection of poems "Kitni Navon Mein Kitni B aar"How may) Times in how many boats) published in 1967.

22 The Chairman of the USSR State Committee for Utilisation of Atomic Energy, Prof. A.M. Petrosyanta and the Chairman of Indian Atomic Energy Commission, Dr. H.N. Sethna signed a new agreement for scientific and technical cooperation in the

January 22 peaceful utilisation of atomic energy. The current agreement includes additional areas of cooperation in the field of atomic energy which were not mentioned in 1961 agreement.

K.N. Kunjukrishna Pillai, 73, President of the Kerala Freedom Fighters Association, died.

— The Malaysian Prime Minister, Dato Hussein Bin Onn, arrived in New Delhi on a four-day visit to India.

— Miss Mathura Ketkar, 73, trade Union leader of Madras, died.

— Mrs. Sulochana Modi, former Mayor of Bombay, died. She was 72.

— Twelve miners were killed and 33 injured, six of them seriously in an explosion at the Borgolai colliery, 5 km from Margherita in Upper Assam.

23 Four Organisations—Citizens for Democracy, Sarva Seva Sangh, Lok Seva Sangh and Gandhi Peace Foundation—concerned with providing safegaurds to civil liberties have set up a coordination committee to strengthen democracy at the conclusion of their two-day meeting at New Delhi on January 21. The committee with V.M. Tarkunde as its Chairman will draw public attention to any explosive and dangerous situation obtaining on account of low-level politics.

— India and Burma signed an air transport agreement at Rangoon.

— India and Indonesia signed at Djakarta, a formal Memorandum of Understanding to coordinate the satisfactory use of INSAT LA and PALPA domestic satellite systems.

— Prof. Tripurari Chakraborty, scholar and educationist, died. He was 82.

24 Charan Singh and Rabi Ray were sworn-in as Cabinet Ministers; Charan Singh has been designated as Deputy Prime Minister and in charge of Finance. He will have the second position in the Cabinet. Jagjivan Ram was also designated as Deputy Prime Minister. He retained the Defence portfolio. H.M. Patel was reshuffled to be incharge of Home Ministry. Rabi Ray, General Secretary of the Janata Party and a close associate of Charan Singh was entrusted with Health and Family Welfare, the portfolio which Raj Narain held earlier.

— India will receive £ 150,000 in assistance from the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) for helping farmers of the flood-affected areas to grow vegetables, according to an agreement signed in New Delhi between Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) and FAO.

January 24	Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai and the Malaysian Prime Minister, Hussein Bin Onn signed an economic cooperation agreement which provides for a broad framework to enhance cooperation in industry, science, technology, agriculture etc. It contemplates creation of a Joint committee to oversee its implementation and consider ways to promote economic and technical cooperation. The Foreign Minister A.B. Vajpayee and his Malaysian counterpart Ahmad Rithaudden also signed a treaty which provides for extradition of political offenders.
—	P.P. George, who represented Kottayam in the Kerala assembly, died in an accident. Mr. George (59) was one of the founders of the Communist movement in Kerala. Having joined the CPI in 1941 he had also taken part in the State Congress movement while a student in 1939.
—	Prof. M.G.K. Menon, Secretary in the Department of Science and Technology, has been unanimously elected Chairman of the preparatory committee of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD).
—	A space rocket, Rohini-200 for meteorologicale xperiments and weather forecasting was successfully launched from a launching pad near Chandipore, on sea, 20 km south of Balasare.
25	Ananta Singh of the Chittagong armoury raid fame, died.
—	Malcolm Fraser, the Prime Minister of Australia, arrived in New Delhi on an official visit. He was accorded a civic reception at the Red Fort in Delhi. On 27th January the Australian Prime Minister addressed the Members of Parliament. On 28th January, disclosing at a news conference, Malcolm Fraser said India and Australia have agreed to set up a high level Joint Consultative Group to promote trade between the two countries and an Indian mission will visit Australia to explore the possibilities of joint ventures in the field of coking coal. He left on January 29.
—	Paul G. Hoffman Award for 1978 was presented to Dr. (Mrs.) Durgabai Deshmukh by Dr. Irving S. Friendman, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Paul G. Hoffman Award, as the recipient was not in a position to move out of the country.
—	The Second World Hindu Conference was inaugurated by Dalai Lama in Allahabad.
—	Three agreements for a total value of Rs. 232 crore (£ 145 million) were signed in New Delhi between India and Britain. The agreements were in pursuance of the British pledge at the last Aid-India consortuim meeting to provide £ 70 million for Project imports, £ 60 million for maintenance imports and £ 10 million for power and coal sector imports.

January 25 Two day meeting of the Education Ministers and University Vice-Chancellors of Hindi speaking states ended in New Delhi.

— Four Ministers of State-Ram Kinkar, Nar Singh, Jagbir Singh and Jneshwar Mishra—were sworn-in as Ministers of State by the President at a brief ceremony in Rashtrapati Bhavan. The portfolio allocated to them were as follows-Ram Kinkar—Works, Housing, Supply and Rehabilitation ; Nar Singh-Petroleum, Chemicals and Fertilisers; Jagbir Singh—Information and Broadcasting and Jneshwar Mishra—Energy. Fazul-ur-Rehman, Minister of State for Energy was shifted to Planning and Jagdambi Prasad Yadav who was looking after Ministry of Health and Welfare was shifted to Industry.

26 Police was ordered to shoot at sight persons indulging in arson following violent agitation on the antimerger issue of Pondicherry and the formation of an all-party anti-merger committee to launch direct action against the proposed merger of Pondichery with the neighbouring States. Inspector-General of Police told newsmen that this has become evident in view of widespread arson in Pondicherry town. A 22-years old youth, Sukumaran was killed and three others were injured in the Police firing.

27 Mauritius will purchase an additional 12,000 tonnes of rice from India under an agreement signed between the two countries in New Delhi. The agreement follows the one signed in October last year for the supply of 24,000 tonnes of rice to Mauritius.

— In persuance of the resolution passed by the Janata National Executive, a nine-member Committee was set up under Ramakrishna Hegde as its convener to go into the question of effectively reducing the control and holdings of large industrial houses on national economy.

— The Second Vishwa Hindu Sammelan (World Hindu Conference) ended at Vyasnagar, Allahabad, with delegates from India and 21 other countries from Asia, Africa, Europe and North and South Americas declaring their resolve to fight untouchability, casteism and weaknesses so that the Sammelan's aim to make the World "Arya" is achieved.

— Ram Naresh Yadav, Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, got accepted by the Governor the resignations of the four Ministers-two Cabinet Ministers and two Deputy Ministers whom he had asked to quit and elevated all the remaining Deputy Ministers to the rank of Minister of State. The Minister elevated to the rank of Minister of State were – Bhagwatti Singh, Chote Lal Yadav, Maqbool Hussain, Dinanath Sevak, Shiv Das Tiwari and Tej Singh.

January	28	General Widodo, Chief of the Army Staff, Indonesian National Army, arrived on a six-day visit to India.
	—	Dr. Mata Prasad, noted scientist and former director of the Institute of Science, Bombay and of the Central Salt and Marine Research Institute, Bhavnager, died. He was 84.
	—	Fourteen people were drowned when a boat sank in the Jamuna.
	—	Kshitish Chandra Das Gupta, a veteran freedom fighter and close associate of Mahatma Gandhi, died. He was 90.
	29	The fifth cricket test match played between India and West Indies ended in a draw. The Match was played in New Delhi.
	—	The first double headed train raced towards Madras as the Railway Minister, Madhu Dandavate flagged off the 21-coach Tamil Nadu Express hauled by two diesel engines. It was described as the Railways entry into the era of "Jumbo Jet on Track."
	—	Miss Abha Maiti, Minister of State for Industry led a three member delegation to the two-day meeting of the ad-hoc group of Ministers of Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) countries beginning at Bangkok on 30th January.
	—	Seven persons were killed on the spot and 26 others injured in a road accident involving two buses at Thamarakula, 26 km. from Coimbatore on the Coimbatore Pollachi road.
	—	In Uttar Pradesh two Deputy Ministers Shiv Das Tiwari and Tej Singh were sworn-in as Ministers of State by the Governor G.D. Tapase.
	30	The Chief Election Commissioner, S.L. Shakdher passed an order, declaring the Chikamagalur seat in the Lok Sabha vacant as a result of expulsion of Indira Gandhi from the House.
	—	The President accepted the resignation of Jagannath Kaushal from the office of Governor of Bihar. Jagannath Kaushal had resigned on January 29 for "personal" reasons.
	—	Ram Prasad Tamta, former member of the Rajya Sabha, died. He was 70.
	—	Rt. Rev. Arjan McCune, Bishop of North India, died. He was 44.

January 31 Brahm Perkash, MP announced his resignation from the Delhi Janata ad hoc executive committee to protest against the "domination of the RSS and the erstwhile Jan Sangh."

— G.V.K. Rao, Secretary, Department of Agriculture was appointed a member of the planning commission. He took over his new post on April 1, 1979.

— President Sanjiva Reddy issued an Ordinance amending Sections 9 and 13 of the Working Journalists (Conditions of Service and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act to empower the Government to refer the question of fixation or revision of wages of working journalists and other newspaper employees to a high power tribunal.

— President Sanjiva Reddy laid the foundation-stone of the Punjab, Haryana and Delhi Chamber of Commerce and Industry building in New Delhi.

— A Rohini—200, a rocket carrying a meteorological payload of 10 kg was successfully launched from the rocket launching station at Chandipare-On-Sea, 20 km from Balasure. Rohini-200 is a two-stage unguided rocket with a solid propellant.

February 1 The Indian Government expressed its deep concern over the humiliating treatment meted out to an Indian teacher who flew into Heathrow airport seeking entry into Britain and was examined by a doctor to determine whether she was virgin. The medical examination was carried out by a male doctor despite her request that she be seen by a woman doctor. On February 2 Britain's Home office ordered immigration officers to cease virginity tests for women seeking entry into Britain as India made an official protest to the Foreign Office about the practice.

— The leader of the Chipko movement, Sunder Lal Bahuguna, gave up his 24 day-old fast in the jail, after a telegraphic assurances by the Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Ram Naresh Yadav, that falling of trees at Badyargad, Amershar and Bardharigad was being immediately stopped.

— Shyam Rathi Singh, news editor of Navabharat Times, died. He was 56.

— Freedom fighter Gomti Devi, widow of the late Kishori Lal Mashruwala, an associate of Mahatma Gandhi, died. She was 82.

— India and El Salvador agreed to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level with immediate effect.

Prakash Padukone won the men's national badminton Championship beating Syed Modi 15-6, 15-1, while Punjab's Kanwal

Thakur Singh stayed women's champion with a surprising 11-7, 12-11 verdict against the Railway's Ami Ghia. The match was played at Lav Kush stadium in Udaipur.

February 3 President N. Sanjiva Reddy inaugurated the two week Engineering Trade Fair in New Delhi.

— Two persons were killed and several injured when a Kottayam-bound passenger train from Quilon went off the rails and overturned at Perinad near Quilon. Four of the five bogies of the train were overturned. The two persons died on the spot.

— Two Rohini space rockets carrying meteorological payload of 10 kg each were successfully launched from rocket launching station at Chandipore-on-sea, 20 km from Balasore.

— The Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Ram Naresh Yadav, served notice on six erstwhile Jana Sangh Ministers to quit on their own. These Ministers had attended meeting on 29 January, which was called to plan for the ouster of the Chief Minister. On February 3, eight Ministers, belonging to the erstwhile Jana Sangh sent their resignations to the Party Chief Chandra Shekhar. The Ministers described their action as a protest against the Chief Minister, Ram Naresh Yadav, making preposterous allegations against them of hatching a conspiracy to dethrone him.

— The first cultural exchange programme for 1979 and 1980 between India and North Korea—envisaging cooperation in the fields of education, science, art, films, television and sports was signed in New Delhi.

— The Government decided to allow free export of potatoes with immediate effect. Till now their export was canalised through NAFED. The decision was taken in view of the fall in prices of potatoes in Punjab, Haryana and UP markets.

Prime Minister Morarji Desai arrived in Colombo on a four day visit to Sri Lanka to be the chief guest of Sri Lanka in its 31st anniversary of independence celebration. On February 6, Morarji Desai while addressing the Sri Lanka Parliament expressed his unshaken confidence in the democratic system of Government, but cautioned: "Neverthless, eternal vigilance is the price of liberty. Parliament and the people must constitute the machinery of that vigilance." In a joint statement issued at the conclusion of Morarji Desai's visit to Sri Lanka—both the countries decided to pursue action to increase the bilateral trade and for the establishment of joint ventures in the industrial and export promotion zone.

— Prof. P.G. Mavlankar, has been unanimously elected Chairman of the consultative committee of experts of Inter-Parliamentary Union at its meeting held at Geneva.

February 3 Radhakrishna, a noted satirist and short story writer, died. He was 68. He was editor of "Adivasi", a Hindi Weekly published from Ranchi.

— S.N. Sachdev, General Manager, Eastern Railways, has been appointed General Manager of the Northern Railways while Prabhinder Singh, Director, (Transportation) Railway Board—has been posted as General Manager of the Eastern Railways.

4 Bishwanath Jhunjhunwala, industrialist and former M.P., died

— Eight people were killed when two trucks collided and started an explosion of gas cylinders near Bhalinsee, about 17 km from Muzaffarnagar.

— Foreign Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee arrived in Nairobi to chair a meeting of Indian Ambassadors and High Commissioners in Africa and to confer with Kenyan Foreign Minister Munyua Waiyaki.

— Prof. Keshab Chandra Chakrabrty (68), President, West Bengal Committee of the Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh died. Prof. Chakraborty, who was associated with RSS activities for long was imprisoned during the emergency.

— Ram Bux Lohia, freedom fighter, died. He was 66.

— The third Under-19 cricket test between India and Pakistan ended in a draw on the third and final day at the Eden Gardens in Calcutta.

5 Five persons, including a woman, were killed and one was seriously injured when they were run over by the Amritsar Express at Uttarpara, about 12 km. from Hawrah.

— Jagdish Chandra Moitra, 85, sports administrator, journalist and author, died. Mr. Moitra had been acting president of the Indian Hockey Federation in 1948 and President of the Western India Football Association from 1948 and 1953. A freedom fighter, he had been awarded the Shiv Chatrappati Award of the Maharashtra Government in 1974 for his contribution to sports.

— A joint business council has been formed by the Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India and Sri Lanka through an agreement signed in New Delhi between the two organisations.

— Nine people were killed and 18 injured, four of them seriously when a Himachal Road Transport Corporation bus fell into a Khad, about 28 km. from Chamba.

6 Eminent Sanskrit Scholar, Pandit Gograj Joshi (81) of Mandrela died.

February 7 The Government set up a 16-member Committee with M.S. Gurupada Swamy as Chairman to look into the cases of child labour and problems arising from it.

— The Janata Party candidate Manmohan Singh was declared elected to the Champa Assembly seat in Madhya Pradesh, defeating his Congress rival Kashi Prasad Rathore.

— The Central Parliamentary Board of the Janata Party directed the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Ram Naresh Yadav to seek a vote of confidence of the legislature porty on February 15. Madhu Dandavate will be the High Command's observer.

— Chandramani Lall Choudhary, a Harijan member of the Rajya Sabha from Bihar was poisoned to death at Muzaffarpur.

— The first chargesheet against V.C. Shuka, former Information and Broadcasting Minister was filed by the CBI in the Court of special Judge D.C. Agarwal in New Delhi.

— The Janata Party retained the Khandwa Lok Sabha seat. Khushabhau Thakre, leader of the Madhya Pradesh unit of the party defeated Shive Kumar Singh of Congress (I) by 38,486 votes in the by-election for which polling took place on 4th February.

— Major General Bimonesh Chatterjee, a former Military Secretary to the President and later Indian Commissioner to Mauritius, died. He was 72.

— Prabhinder Singh took over as the Eastern Railways General Manager from S.N. Sachdev who joined the Northern Railways as General Manager.

8 Sixth and final cricket match played between India and West Indies at Kanpur, ended in draw. India regained the rubber at 1-0 by virtue of their victory in Madras.

— Thirty-three persons died in a ghastly bus accident which occurred on the Thana Greek Bridge in Bombay.

9 Dr. Balaichand Mukhopadhya populary known as "Banaphool" died. He was 80. A medico-turned novelist, Dr Mukhopadhya emerged as bright star in the Bengali literary world with his thought provoking short stories and carved out his place under the pen name of "Banaphool." His literary activities extended to different branches of Bengali literature. He has to his credit 100 books.

— Luis J. Cordeiro, Chairman, India Hockey Federation Selection Committee, resigned.

— The Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation has constituted

	—	an Airport Advisory Committee for each of the four international airports of Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras to provide close relationship between the travellers and the agencies providing the services.
February	9	North zone lifted the Vizzy Trophy for the Zonal University Cricket Tournament. The match was played at the Eden Gardens (Calcutta)
	—	Prime Mininister Morarji Desai inaugurated in New Delhi the International Congress on Oil seeds and Oils being held for the first time in India. The Congress was attended by delegates of 25 countries.
	—	Renowned Marathi film director and actor, Rajabhav Dattatraya Paranjape, popularly known as Raja Paranjape, died.
	—	Rev. C.D.T. Shores, Bishop Commissar of India for the Liberal Catholic Church, died. He was 91.
	10	Air Vice-Marshal T.S. Brar, AVSM, who has been promoted to the rank of Air Marshal and appointed Air Office Commanding-in Chief Central Air Command at Allahabad.
	—	Baldies International convention was held in New Delhi.
	—	Former Governor of Rajasthan, Sardar Joginder Singh, 80, died Mr. Singh, had resigned from the Governorship of Rajasthan to contest the 1977 Lok Sabha General election from his home district in Bahraich on the Congress ticket.
	—	Ramu Kariat, veteran Malayalam film director, died. He was 51.
	—	The U.P. Ministry was plunged into a first-rate crisis as Chief Minister Ram Naresh Yadav advised the Governor to dismiss 13 Ministers, belonging to the former Jan Sangh, on their refusal to resign. However on 11th February the Governor accepted the resignations of all the 13 Ministers. The resignations which had been sent to the Janata Party President Chandra Shekhar by these Ministers on 4th February, were handed over to the Governor on 11th February on instructions from Chandra Shekhar.
	11	The Cellular jail at Port Blair was converted into a national memorial and was dedicated to the nation by the Prime Minister, Morarji Desai, at a Solemn function attended among others by 133 former inmates of the jail.
	—	External Affairs Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee left for Peking on an official visit. On February 14, A.B. Vajpayee, at a meeting with China's Vice-Premier Deng Xiaoping, made it

— clear that India will resent any outside interference in the Kashmir question and that she is committed to solve this issue in discussions with Pakistan under the Simla agreement. He also explained India's relation with any country is not directed against any third country but India will be concerned if its bilateral relations with any country should conflict with its relations or search for stability in South Asia. On February 15, during his talks with A.B. Vajpayee at Peking,the China's Communist Party Chairman, Premier Hua Guofeng affirmed that China is in improving relations with India and confident that all outstanding questions will be solved by friendly negotiations and with sincerity, goodwill and persevernce.

February 11 Forty-one persons were killed when a bus carrying them skidded off the road and fell into a pool near Barpeta, about 140km from Gauhati.

— Mukand, former MP and freedom fighter, died. He was 82.

12 The Government of India recognised the Iranian Government headed by Mehdi Bazargan.

— India was defeated by Australia in the Eastern Zone Davis Cup semi-final at the Appa Rao Stadium in Madras.

13 The Government constituted a tribunat headed by D.G. Palekar, a former judge of the Supreme Court to fix the wages of working journalists and non journalists.

— Pran Nath Kapoor, Vice President of the Pune city Janata Party and a founder of the former Bharatiya Lok Dal in Maharashtra, died. He was 44.

— An unsuccessful attempt was made on the life of the UP Chief Minister, Ram Naresh YSdav, when a young man attacked him with a knife. The young man was identified as Gajendra Nath Mishra.

14 Krishnan Raghunath, Councellor in the India Embassy in Moscow, has been appointed Ambassador to East Germany in succession to Roy Axel Khan.

— The Union Government abolished the export duty on tea.

— The Union Home Minister H. M. Patel at the meeting of the consultative committee for this Ministry, announced the setting up of a high level committee under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Prime Minister, Jagjivan Ram, to promote communal harmony and suggest steps to deal with communal disturbances.

February 15 The Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Ram Naresh Yadav submitted his resignation to the Governor, G.D. Tapase, after his defeat in a trial of strength in the Janata Legislature Party by a margin of nine votes.

— Dr. M. L. Shahare has been appointed Chairman of the Union Public Service Commission.

— Nine people were killed in a fire which destroyed some huts and godowns at Wadals in north-east Bombay.

— Rabindra Kumar Das, known in cultural circles for his pioneering role in the promotion of art and music died in Calcutta. He was 62. Mr. Das was associated till his death with reputed music training institution which he founded in the early fifties.

16 Justice H. R. Khanna, Chairman of the Law Commission and former judge of the Supreme Court and Dr. Mirinal Miri of the North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong, were appointed Members of the University Grants Commission. The former will represent the category of learned Professions and later that of University Teachers.

— M. S. Aravamuthu (79), who was the first manager of the Hindustan Time business office, died.

— W. D. Beg, a journalist and a well-known cricketer of his time died. He was 85. Founding the Rajputana Cricket Club in 1916, Beg sponsored and captained the club's private cricket tour to England in 1938.

19 Brahmasri Vedanta Siromani N. S. Ananthakrishna Sastri, asthana Vidwan of Sringeri Mutt, died. He was 85. Mr. Sastri was a great Sanskrit and Vedic Scholar.

— A comprehensive agreement between India and Singapore was signed in New Delhi providing for the avoidance of double taxation on income.

— Dr. K. Naggappa Alva, who constituted the single-member Commission to inquire into the adequacy of medical treatment given to Jayaprakash Narayan at the Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research at Chandigarh during the emergency, resigned. The Commision was appointed by the Centre in 1977.

— Kozhikode district and sessions judge A. R. Srinivasan discharged all the 23 accused, including former Chief Minister K. Karunakaran and the police officials in the private complaint filed by Prof. T.V. Eachera Warriar, in the Rajan case. Prof. Warrier is the father of Rajan, student of Calicut Regional Engineering College, who died allegedly as a result of police

— torture in the Kakyapam camp near Peramba during the emergency.

February 19 The President Sanjiva Reddy opened the Budget Session of the Parliament. Addressing the joint session of both the Houses, the President called for withdrawal of Chinese forces from Vietnam as a first step to end the conflict, on the economic front. He stressed the importance the Government attached to land reform measures and to working of Panchayati Raj Institutions, the massive national Adult education programme and the proposal to set up a National Children Fund.

20 The Central Bureau of Investigation registered two more first information reports for investigation in cases against late Krishan Chand, former Lt. Governor of Dehli, K.S. Bajwa, former Superintendent of Police CID (SB), Delhi and Jagmohan former Vice-Chairman of Delhi Development Authority along with Satya Prakash and Ranbir Singh, former executive Officers of DDA.

— Five labourers were killed and two were injured when an old and rusted shell shaped object, believed to be lethal military ammunition exploded in the compound of a factory being built in the village of Gandhipur, about 15 km. south of Kutab Minar (Delhi),

— Gondker Narayana Rao, at present Deputy Director, Policy Planning Division in the Ministry of External Affairs, was appointed as Ambassador of India to Mongolia.

— The Government banned the export of silver with immediate effect.

— Railway Minister Madhu Dandavate presented to the Parliament the third successive surplus budget. The highlight of the Rs. 88.49 crores surplus budget was a special gesture to children during the International year of the child raising the age limit for free rail travel from three to five years as a regular measure. The other important features of the budget were : increase in season ticket, concessions for farmers and supplementary levy on freight.

21 Dr. Yusuf Hussain, 76, younger brother of late Dr. Zakir Hussain, died. Dr. Hussain, a writer, was the recipient of the Sahitya Academy award this year. He has written a number of books in English and Urdu. Dr. Hussain, Professor of History in Osmania University, Hyderabad, took over as Vice-Chancellor of Aligarh Muslim University after his retirement. Later, he was a fellow of the Institute of Higher Studies, Simla. Dr. Hussain translated Ghalib's poetry into English.

— Kan Singh, a retired judge of the Rajasthan High Court

— was appointed, Vice-Chancellor of Jodhpur University. He took over the charge on February 23.

February 21 Lok Sabha passed the Working Journalists and other Newspaper employees (conditions of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment) Bill, 1979 to replace an ordinance promulgated earlier by the Government to provide for the appointment of a one-man tribunal to decide the question of wage revision for journalists and non-journalists.

— Thirteen-member Meghalaya Ministry headed by D.D. Pugh was sworn-in. All the present Ministers were in the outgoing cabinet. They are D.D. Pugh, M.N. Majaiv, John Deng Phorrmeu, Brosonnoson W. Momin, Jenden Marak, Jackman Marak and P.R. Kyndiah. The new entrants are M.D. Shira, E.K. Mawlong, S.P. Swer and Bhadreswar Kock. The Ministry was expanded on February 27 by addition of two more Ministers of State, Upstar Kharbuli and Jungoi Khongjoh.

— Twenty-Five people were killed and 150 injured when the balcony of a building collapsed in Sayedpura Village in Bharatpur district. They were watching a marriage procession.

22 C. S. Roy (68) member of the Sikkim Legislative Assembly and leader of the Opposition died after a prolonged illness. He was the former speaker of the sikkim Assembly.

— Devraj Sethi, former MLA and freedom fighter, died after a long illness. He was a member of the United Punjab Assembly from 1938 to 1947 and the Punjab Assembly until 1957.

— Opening the first International symposium on the tiger in New Delhi, Deputy Prime Minister Jagjivan Ram said that protecting the tiger must be viewed not just preserving an endangered species, but a crucial factor for man's own welfare too. The three day symposium was attended by about 250 tiger specialists, conservationists, and naturalists. a fair sprinkling of them from abroad.

— 220,000 workers of the 60 jute mills in West Bengal ended their 49-day old strike. The industry has agreed to give house rent allowance to its workers for the first time.

23 — Brajesh Chandra Mishra, Ambassador of India to Jakarta was appointed to succeed Rikh Jaipal at the United Nations as India's Permanent Representative.

24 An agreement between India and Zambia was signed in New Delhi providing for the avoidance of a double taxation on income.

February 24	The President appointed Justice Challa Kondaiah, a judge of the Andhra Pradesh High Court, as the Chief Justice of the same Court from March 16.
—	Prime Minister Morarji Desai inaugurated a two-day meeting of the National Development Council (NDC) in New Delhi. Opening the meeting, he said that just as the Centre has a duty to be considerate to every state, comparatively affluent State have also some duty towards those which are not well off. If this attitude of accommodation is adopted many of the difficulties will dispappear. On 25th February, NDC accepted a formula favouring poorer States which will govern the sharing of Rs. 2,000-crore of extra Central assistance that will become available with the pruning of Centrally sponsored schemes.
—	The Punjab Vigillance Bureau filed charge-sheet against the former Punjab Chief Minister, Zail Singh for misusing his official position in collecting funds for the 1975 session of the Congress Party.
—	Vice-President, B. D. Jatti released a commemorative stamp in honour of the revolutionary leader, Bhai Parmanand at a brief ceremony at Vithalbhai Patel House, New Delhi.
25	India defeated Malaysia 5-4 in the Thomas Cup Asian Zone badminton final. The match was played at Kuala Lumpur.
—	President N. Sanjiva Reddy laid the foundation stone of Chittaranjan Bhavan in New Delhi, a project commemorating the eminent freedom fighter, C. R. Das.
25	Sriram became the new National junior table tennis champion by defeating Delhi's Pharthiv Vyas and Madalasa Hazarika of Assam emerged as the National Champion in the girls section with a straight game victory over Rajasthan's Sharda Sharma.
—	O.N. Vohra, the Session Judge delivered his judgement after an 11-month long trial and held Sanjay Gandhi and V. C. Shukla guilty on various criminal charges for having destroyed the negative and other material of the film "Kissa Kursi Ka." On 17th February Sanjay Ghandhi and V.C. Shukla were sentenced to two years rigorous imprisonment each and fined Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 25,000 respectively for distribution of the film. However, Mr. Vohra stayed the operation of his order until March 27 and released both on bail of Rs. 5,000 each and surety in the like amount. Payment of fines was also suspended for a month to enable the accused to appeal to the High Court.
27	Justice Engalaguppa Seetharamian Venkataramiah, a judge of the Karnataka High Court, has been appointed by the President as judge of the Supreme Court.

February 27	Banarsi Das, Ministerialists' candidate was declared elected as the new leader of the U.P. Janata legislature Party. He defeated the dissidents' candidate, Raj Mangal Pandey by 35 votes. On 28 February Governor G.D. Tapase administered the oath of office and secrecy to Banarsi Das as the Chief Minister. Apart from Chief Minister, Six Ministers also took the oath of office.
28	Jairamadas Daulatram, former Assam Governor and Rajya Sabha member, died of a heart attack. He was 89.
—	Fifty four people were killed when a bus carrying pilgrims from Varanasi fell into a Khud between Navtanava and Kathamandu.
—	Chief of Naval Staff, Admiral Jal Cursetji retired after 41 years of service in the Indian Army.
—	Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Charan Singh presented in the Lok Sabha, Central budget for 1979-80. According to this budget levies were laid on a staggering list of item of common consumption to raise a record of Rs. 665 crores in additional revenues of which Rs. 606014 will come from indirect Taxation.
March 1	Admiral R. L. Pereira took over as the Chief of the Naval Staff. He succeeded Admiral Jal Cursetji, who retired after 41 years of distinguished service.
—	Bailalbhai Contractor, Gujarat Industries, Parliamentary Affairs and Sports Minister, died. He was 63.
—	IOC bronze medal was presented to Sardar Surjit Singh Majithia, former president of the Wrestling Federation of India and Vice-president of the IOA. The medal is presented by the International olympic body for meritorious services in the field of Olympic sport.
—	A notification was issued by the Government which says in exercise of the powers conferred by Sub-Section (1) of Section 4 of the Press Council Act, 1978 (37 of 1978) the Central Government hereby appoints 1st of March, 1979 as the date with effect from which Press Council of India shall be established, The Government set up the Press Council consisting of 28 members.
—	Renowned film maker S. Sukhev died after a heart attack. He was 46. Winner of several national and international awards, Sukhdev was also awarded Padma Shri. He served as a jury member of several film festivals in India and abroad.

March 2 The Indian Railways remained the best among the women teams in the Inter-State Table Tennis Championship.

— The Lok Sabha took up clause by clause consideration of the Special Courts Bill designed for speedy trial of emergency offences and adopted six of its 11 clauses rejecting the several amendments proposed in respect of them.

— Prof K. Shivaram Hegde, Director, Madras Institute of Technology, has been appointed Vice-Chancellor of Mysore University.

— The Rajya Sabha passed a private members Bill seeking to make it explicit that the Aligarh Muslim University "shall be deemed to have been established at the instance of Muslims of India".

— Sita Rawlley won the Women's Northern India Golf championship, held in New Delhi, by a margin of 11 stroke, beating Harji Malik to second place.

— Tamil Nadu retained the Barna Bellack Cup, taking an hour and 27 minutes to quell Maharashtra's challenge at 5-2 in the men's team final of the 40th National and Inter-State Table Tennis championship held in Udaipur.

3 Five persons were killed on the spot and 19 injured, four of them seriously when a Nowgong-bound State Transport bus collided with an oil truck at Khakhati near Moran, about 50 km from Dibrugarh.

— President Sanjiva Reddy, opening a two-day conference of Governors, advised them to function as elder statesmen outside the "clash of party or parochial interests" and create the impression that they are "an independent and impartial authority". On March 4, i.e. on the concluding day of the Conference, the President called on Governors for firm steps to curb the growth of student indiscipline in the country to tackle the problem at highest national level".

— Manjit Dua asserted his supramacy as the country's best table tennis player, scoring a grand triple for the second time in a row as he retained the men's singles, men's doubles and mixed doubles crown in the finals of the National and Inter State Tennis Championship held in Udaipur.

— Reported that the group of 75 Maharashtra congress legislators owing allegiance to Chief Minister Sharad Pawar till now known as the Maharashtra Progressive Democratic Congress Legislature Party, will henceforth be known as the Maharashtra Legislature Congress Party.

March 5 Britain apologised to the United Nations Human Rights Commission over the case of an Indian woman forced to undergo a virginity test at London's Heathrow airport, but denied that it was evidence of systematic discrimination.

— The Central Bureau of Investigation filed a charge-sheet against the former Chief Minister Of Tamil Nadu, M. Karunanidhi and a former Minister, Anbil Dharamalingam, who are alleged to have received illegal gratification totalling Rs. 5.50 lakhs from certain companies for awarding contracts for aerial spraying operations.

— Inaugurating a three-day conference of Commonwealth industry Ministers at Bangalore, the Prime Minister Morarji Desai assured that India will collaborate with every member of Commonwealth in various fields to make human life in this part of the world "happier and richer".

— A military jet plane on a routine flight from Kalai Kunda airbase crashed in Anti village. The pilot was killed on the spot.

— Commemorative postal stamps and coins were released by Vice-President B.D. Jatti to mark the International Year of the Child. The two postal stamps were in the denominations of Rs. 1 and 25 paise, while the coins in those of 10 and 5 paise. The other two coins of Rs. 50 and Rs. 10 were not for circulation.

— Rajya Sabha passed a Bill for appointment of tribunals in place of wage boards for journalists and non-journalist newspaper employees. The Bill, already passed by the Lok Sabha on 21st Feb. would replace an Ordinance issued on 31 st January to enable D.G. Palekar, Chairman of the two wage boards, to function as the common tribunal. The Bill amends the working Journalists and other Newspaper Employees (condition of Service) and Miscellaneous provision Act, 1955.

— The Rajya Sabha adopted a Bill to prevent the navigational and engineering personnel in the Indian Merchant Navy from joining a foreign shipping line for four years after training. The Bill has already been passed by the Lok Sabha.

6 Asian games Gold Medalist Sriram Singh, of the Services, became the first recipient of the newly-instituted B. A. Saxena Trophy for valour in sports.

— Nine people were killed and seven injured when an avalanche swept across the border village of Neeru in Kashmir.

— Prem Singh Singhvi, former MLA from Chhabra in Kota district, died. He way 45.

March 6 The U.P. Ministry was expanded with the addition of 18 Ministers raising its strength to 25, including the Chief Minister, Banarsi Das Ram Naresh Yadav, the former Chief Minister has been appointed Deputy Chief Minister On March 7, the Chief Minister further expanded his Cabinet by including S.P. Malaviya and H. K.. Srivastava, the two BLD dissident leaders, thus raising its strength to 27.

7 Boharul Islam, the Seniormost Puisne judge of Guahati High Court was appointed Chief Justice of that Court.

— A fire in the slum area of Visakhapatnam claimed nine lives and destroyed 2,000 houses, leaving 10,000 people homeless.

— India and Iraq have signed a cultural exchange programme envisaging co-operation between the two countries in the field of education, culture and science.

— Iyyanki Enkata Ramanayya, architect of the public library movement, died. Mr. Ramanayya was first Asian to be awarded the Prof. Kaula Gold medal in recognition of his services for the public library movement in the country in general and in Andhra Pradesh in particular.

— Niranjan Singh, a well known freedom fighter and educationist, died.

— R.K. Khadilkar, a former Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha died. Mr. Khadilkar was 78. As a political worker, Mr. Khadilkar underwent imprisonment several times between 1930 and 1945. He was elected member to the second Lok Sabha, 1957-62 and to the third Lok Sabha, 1962-67. He was in the Public Accounts Committee in 1962-63 and 1963-64 and also its Chairman for sometime. Mr. Khadilkar had written a book titled "Nava Cheenchya Nirmitichi Poopresha" in Marathi.

— Vijay Kumar Malhotra has been elected president of the All-India Carram Federation.

— At least 75 persons were killed in avalanches following the current heavy snowfall in Aahul Valley.

— The Bihar Ministry decided to Introduce total probibition throughout the State from 1st April.

— Aontract for export of Woolen Knitwears worth Rs. 31.1 crores from India to the Soviet Union was signed in New Delhi.

— A fire destroyed the three-storey building of the Directorate of Horticulture, about 5 km. from Simla.

March	8	India ented into a bilateral agreement with a number of countries which took a part in the Aommonwelath Industries Conference in Bangalore. The Industry Minister, George Fernandes, informed the newsmen that the agreements are for setting up of industries, transfer of technology and training of skilled personnel. The countries are Fiji, Bangladesh, Ayprus, Nigeria, Tanzania, Solmomon island and Nauru.
	—	The Government reconstituted the National Productivity Council to meet the needs of new rural oriented economics policies. The Industry Minister George Fernandes was appointed its President. The 75-member Council gave edual representation to Government employers and trade union organisations.
	—	Justice E. S. Venkataramiah was sworn-in as a judge of the Supreme Court.
	—	Mrs. Tara Imamdas, a social worker, died. She was 61.
	—	P.S. Dave, labour Commissioner, Delhi, died.
	—	Rohini Khadilkar performed a hat-trick winning the national women's championship for the third year in succession.
	9	Five persons died on the spot and seven later when a lory carrying a marriage party of about 50 persons overturned after hitting a cyclist at Ahoutuppal, about 40 km from Hyderabad.
	—	Lok Sabha passed by a voice vote, the Special Aourts Bill seeking to provide for speedy trial of Emergency offences.
	—	Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin arrived in New Delhi on seven-day visit to India. He was received by the Prime Minister. Just after his arrival, he said that one of the main purposes of his visit to India was to discuss with the Prime Minister Morarji Desai and other leaders the possibilities of both countries to broaden their mutiliated cooperation in the fields of economy, science, technology, culture and in other fields Mr. Kosygin conferred with Mr. Desai for 30 minutes without aides.
	—	Three persons were killed and 15 injured, five of them seriously, when the duplicate Howrah-Amritsar Express and a shunting foodgrains goods special were involved in a collision at Jandiala Guru railway station, 17 km from Amritsar.
	10	As a result of high level talks between the Indo-Soviet

— leaders in New Delhi, the Soviet Union agreed to supply 6 lakh tonnes of crude oil to India in exchange for rice.

March 10 Former Chief Minister of Manipur, M. Koirang Singh, was elected president of the State Janata Party, defeating his rival N. Nilamani Singh by 2 votes.

— Indian Airlines retained the Rangaswamy cup by scoring a narrow 1-0 victory over Railways in a listless second leg final which was marred by violence and tension.

— The Malaysian Government recognised the degrees awarded by medical colleges of India. A Malaysian High Commission notification further added that the Civil Engineering degrees of eight Universities and Electrical Engineering degrees of six Indian Universities have also been recognised by the Malaysian Government.

— Three persons were killed on the spot and three injured seriously when a jeep of the State Public Works Department fell into a khud near Delhi, about 5 km from Simla.

— Well known freedom fighter and Tamil poet S.D. Sundaram died. He was 58. Mr. Sundaram was a member of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Council for a term. He was the first person to win the Central Sangeet Natak Akademi award from Tamil Nadu. He had authored several poems, plays and short stories.

11 Alexei Kosygin spent nearly six hours in talks with Indian leaders. These included two separate sessions with Morarji Desai lasting well over two and a half hours. The focus of talks was on international affairs. A civic reception was given to Mr. Kosygin at the Red Fort.

— The death toll in avalanches in the Lahul-Spiti Valley, crossed 200, according to reports reaching the Simla State Government headquarters.

— Government of India and Maldives agreed to abolish visas for their citizen's travelling between the two countries, according to an India High Commission report.

— Well known musicologist and writer Ralapalli Ananthakrishna Sharma, died. He was 87.

— Yeshwant Krishnraj alias Appa Saheb Khadilkar, former Editor of "Nava Kal", a local Marathi dialy, died. He was 74, Late Mr. Khadilkar, was editor of the paper for about 40 years from 1939 onwardos. Former president of Maratha Patrakar Parishad and Bombay Marathi Patrakar Sangh, he was also formerly member of the Bombay Municipal Corporation, Mr. Khadilkar, a freedom fighter supported the freedom movement hrough this paper. He has written three novels.

March 12 Dr. Bhagwan Das Mahar, noted revolutionary, who was a close associate of Chandra Shekhar Azad, died. He was 69. Dr. Mahar had participated in the well known Bhusawal bomb conspiracy against the British.

— Chand Mal Codha was sworn-in as Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court.

— A goodwill delegation, headed by Janata Party leader, Asoka Mehta, left for Iran. The visit was sponsored by the Government of India. The delegation included Badruddin Tyabji and Ali Nasir Saeed Abaqati.

— Kuldeep Sahdev, Lounsellor in the Embassy of India, Teheran, has been appointed High Commissioner of India to Guyana in succession to Pushkar Johri.

13 G.P. Rajaratnam, an eminent Kannada writer, died. He was 71.

— Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin had two and half hours meeting with Indian PM. Both the Prime Ministers agreed that there is no misunderstanding between the two countries "on any question".

— Syed Abid Ali of Hyderabad, announced his retirement from first class cricket after 2 years of service to the game.

14 Five Indo-Soviet agreements on co-operation in several fields were signed in New Delhi at a ceremony presided over by the Prime Ministers of the two countries. The most important of the wide ranging pacts was a long term agreement on co-operation in economic trade, technical and scientific fields which will run for 10 to 15 years. This agreement covers several major projects like the Visakhapatnam steel plant, the East Coast alumina project, the Mathura refinery, the Sangrauli and Raniganj coalfields, the Ramgarh washery and the Malanj Khand Copper project. It was signed by the two Prime Ministers. A protocol on co-operation in medical sciences and public sciences was also signed by the Prime Ministers. The Agriculture Minister, S.S. Barnala and his Soviet counterpart S.S. Kachkov signed an agreement for the gift of agricultural machinery and motor vehicles for the Suratgarh state farm. A protocol for the supply of 6,00,000 tonnes of Soviet crude in exchange for Indian rice was signed by the commerce secretaries of the two countries. Another protocol signed outlined the cultural exchange programme for 1979-80.

— The renowned Malayalam film artiste, P.J. Antony, died. He was 55. Antony, who got the Bharat award in 1976 for his outstanding performance in "Nirmalayam", had so far acted in more than 100 films. He was a known playwright and an outstanding actor.

March 15 Karnataka Chief Minister, D. Devraj Urs. reiterated his view that if Maharashtra did not want to accept the Mahajan report on the Maharastrha-Karnataka border issue, Karnataka too did not want it.

— Mr. Kosygin left for home after a hectic seven days visit which while it may have added a new dimension to Indo-Soviet economic cooperation, did not persuade India to endorse fully the Soviet leaders view of the South-East Asian situation, the joint communique issued at the end of Mr. Kosygin's visit refered to the massive armed attack by China (not aggression as the Soviet Premier has repeatedly called it) on Vietnam and called for immediate unconditional and total withdrawal of Chinese troops from the country.

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16 The Chief election Commissioner, S.L. Shakdhar, appointed a seven-member committee under the Chairmanship of R. Sampath Kumaran, Chief Electoral Officer to streamline the election machinery in various States and Union Territories.

— The Depty Prime Minister and the Finance Minister, Charan Singh announced in Lok Sabha total withdrawal of the recent increase in excise duty on confectionery, coco powder, chocolates, and biscuits but will bear a duty of 10 per cent ad valoram. He also announced a cut in duty on lower-priced toilet soap (from 15 to 12½ per cent ad valoram), household laundry soap (from 20 to 15 per cent), tooth paste (from 25 to 20 per cent) and toothbrushes and locks (to 8 per cent).

— India and Yugoslavia signed a five-year agreement for cooperation in peaceful utilization of atomic energy.

— Jothedar Gurcharan Singh Tohra, Member of the Parliament and President of the Shriomani Gurdwara Prabandhak Commitee was elected unopposed to the Committee from the Chanarthal constituency of Patiala district.

— Sangeet Natak Akademi awards for 1978 were presented in New Delhi by the President N. Sanjiva Reddy.

17 Eleven persons were killed and thirty seriously injured when a truck met with an accident near Khurai, 45 km from Lalitpur.

— Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed Ghalib award has been granted to Prof. Zoe Ansari of Bombay University for his versatile contribution to literary criticism.

— The Grover Commission which enquired into charges against the Karnataka Chief Minister, Dev raj Urs and some of his past and present colleagues, submitted its final report. It deals with 60 allegations. The first report relating to seven charges was submitted on January 10, 1978.

March 17 An honorary fellowship of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences was conferred on Sir Seewoosagar Ramgoolam, Prime Minister of Mauritius.

— Japan extended a grant of 2.9 billion yen (equivalent to Rs. 12.5 crores) at the current exchange rate as debt relief which according to Japanese Press release, has effect of virtually reducing the interest of all the twenty six loans extended since 1958 to India by Japan.

— Jayaprakash Naryan fell critically ill following sudden and severe abdominal pain with rectal bleeding. On 19th March Mr. Narayan was flown from Patna by a special IAF plane to Jaslok Hospital. On 20th March he revived after cardiac arrest. On 22nd March The All India Radio correspondent at Parliament House got through to the newsroom Broadcasting House at 1.25 pm with the report that the Speaker has announced Jayaprakash Narayan's Death. The Delhi Station's programmes were interrupted and the first flash was carried on Delhi 'B' 1.33 p.m. The news being incorrect, was the most shocking bloomer in recent times. Though the error was corrected within a few minutes by AIR, after playing its usual "mournful music" in the intervening time, the damage had been done.

— Nine persons were killed and six injured when a lorry overturned on the Hyderabad-Nagar junasagar road in Nalgonda district, about 100 km from Hyderabad.

18 K. Raghuramaiah, M.P. and a former Minister in Mrs. Ghandi's Government and P. Parthasarty, MP, have resigned from the Janata Party and joined the Congress (I)

— North Zone claimed the Duleep Trophy cricket title by virtue of their 140-run first inning lead after the final against West Zone ended in a draw at the Eerozeshah Kotla in New Delhi.

— Rear Admiral O.S. Dawson, flag officer commanding the Eastern fleet has been promoted as Vice-Admiral in the Indian Navy. A recipient of Ati Vishisht Seva Medal (AVSM) Admial Dawson has held a number of important assignements in the navy.

19 Dr. V.C. Kuladaiswamy, former Vice-Chancellor of Madurai Kamaraj University has been appointed as U.N. expert and advisor in higher education and hydraulic consultancy in Sri Lanka. He took charge on 21 March.

March	19	Five people were killed and about 50 others injured when a cyclone hit the outskirts of Agartala city. The cyclone lasted about four minutes.
	—	Janata party MLA, Jammuna Ram died of abdominal cancer. He was 54.
	20	Five people were killed and 2o injured when a private bus carrying them fell into a river at New Heaven, 30 km from Imphal.
	—	Laljee Singh, director signalling and telcommunication Railway Board has been appointed general manager of North Eastern Railway in place of Krishna Chandra, who has taken over as general manager, Central Railway.
	—	Pratap Singh, son of Haryana Chief Minister, Devi Lal, resigned fom the membership of the Congress (I).
	—	Tens of Thousands of barefoot landless labourers, men and women in their tattored clothes, from all over the country staged one of the biggest peaceful marches to Parliament House, demanding end to atrocities on weaker sections, radical land reforms, fair wages, housing facilities and employment.
	21	India and the United Kingdom signed an agreement for a Britihs grant of Rs 33.75 crores (£ 20.089 M) for local costs of agreed Indian projects and programmes.
	—	N. P. Jain, Additional Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, has been appointed India's Ambassador to Nepal.
	—	Prime Minister Morarji Desai gave away the Medical Council Silver Jubilee Research Award 1978, the Dr. B.C. Roy National Award 1978 and the Hari Om Ashram Alembic Research Award 1978 at a function organised by the Medical Council of India in New Delhi.
	—	Prime Minister Morarji Desai inaugurated the Backward Classes Commission at New Delhi.
	21	The Rajya Sabha passed by a voice vote, the special Court Bill with two major amendments enlarging the scope of the measure. The passage of the Bill was preceded by eight hours of stormy debate. Later at the clause by-clause stage of adoption and the amendments either proposed by the Government or by the Opposition-there were divisions.
	—	South Zone won the Deodhar Trophy beating North Zone by 29 runs.

March 22 About 50 persons were injured when eight coaches of 8 Down Tinsukia Mail went off the rails at between Anguri and Jagiroad station on the Lumding-Gauhati section of North-East Frontier Railway.

— Andhra Pradesh fisheries Minister, Goka Ramaswamy, resigned from Cabinet in protest against the Chief Minister's scant regard for democratic functioning of the Party.

— Haryana Chief Minister, allocated the portfolio of Cultural Affairs to Kamla Devi, Health Miniter and that of Wakf to Mehar Singh, Jail Minister.

— Sixty Seven people were killed and 300 families rendered homeless by avalanches in Paddar area of Jammu region and Nearu and Darenedar village of Gurez Vally of Kashmir province since 4th March according to official reports.

23 Teachers from all over the country held rally organised by the All India Federation of Educational Association at Boat Club in New Delhi demanding a comprehensive national policy on education and pay scales.

24 General O.P. Malhotra, Chief of the Army Staff left New Delhi for Nigeria on an eight-day goodwill visit.

— India and Poland signed an agreement at the end of sixth session of the Indo-Polish Joint Commission for Economic, Trade, Scientific and technical cooperation.

— Janata Party called for the clarification for "act of indiscipline" from 46 partymen. Those from whom "clarification" have been sought include "Raj Narayan, Purushottam Kaushik, the Union Minister, Ramshankar Kaushik, the UP Minister, and the Rajasthan Minister, Vigyan Modi.

— Nine people were killed and eight injured, many seriously when a two-storry house in Hauz Qazi in Old Delhi collapsed.

— Union Labour Minister inaugurated the electronic equipment and systems manufacturing plant of the Kerala State Electronics Development Corporation at Karakulam.

25 In response to the call by the Bhumiheen Sangharsh Samiti landless peasants in thousands gathered at Ladhpur-Kanjhawala village, near Delhi to remind the Government of their centuries-old exploitation by landlords and they resolved at the rally to intensify the struggle if their demands are not met. The demands included immediate distribution of surplus land, ownership rights to the landless, proper distribution of land, including

		residential areas, fundamental rights to employment and unemployment allowances, classification of all weapons-legal or illegal held by landlords, availability of fertilizers, water and electricity at subsidised rates and abolition of clauses 4 and 5 of the Forest Act.
March	27	Prof Keshav Chandra Gupta, a noted freedom fighter, died. He was 76. Prof Gupta joined DAV. College, Lahore in 1928. His services were terminated because of his active opposition to the visit of the Simmon Commission.
	28	Gopikisan Piramal, an industrialist and noted philanthropist, died in New Delhi. He was 56.
	—	Hiralal Patwary. a Janta member of Lok Sabha, died.
	—	An Indian Air Force aircraft crashed on a trial flight in the Lohegaon military airport.
	—	K.L. Chatterjee, former principal of the Bombay College of Pharmacy, died. He was 67. He was connected with a number of leading pharmaceutical houses including the India Drugs and Pharmacenticals Ltd., a Union Government Undertaking.
	29	Delhi won the Ranji Trophy (Cricket) for the first time when they defeated holders Karanataka by 399 runs.
	—	Indradeo Chaudhary, an independent member of the Bihar assembly and one of the main accused in Belchi murder case, died. He was 55.
	30	Thirty seven passengers were killed and over 100 injured in a bus accident at Kumbazha near Pathnamthitta, about 70 km from Kottayam.
	31	Delhi and Panaji were linked with full time subscriber Trunk Dialling (STD) service, Brij Lal Verma, Union Communication Minister opened the service.
	—	The pioneer of Indian Civil aviation, 75 year-old J.R.D. Tata received the prestigious Tony Jannus award for outstanding contribution to airline development.
	—	Vice-Admiral V. E. C. Barboza took over the Western Naval Command as Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief from Vice-Admiral R.K. Ghandhi who has retired.
April	1	Dr. O. P. Gautam succeeded Dr. M.S. Swaminathan as the director-General of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and secretary, department of Agricultural Research and Education in the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.

April 1 The Jhelum Express running between Delhi and Jammu Tawi was extended to run between Jammu Tawi and Pune.

— Rajasthan Government introduced total prohibition in seven more districts of the State.

2 India and Somalia signed a cultural agreement in New Delhi envisaging cooperation in the fields of education, art and mass media. The agreement also provides for exchange in the spheres of sports, public health, culture and journalism as to promote better understanding and cooperation between the two countries.

— Rajaram Krishna Chimbulkar of the Janata Party was elected as the 52nd Mayor of Bombay. Chimbulkar polled 86 votes against his rival, Indumati T. Patel.

3 Dr. Jaskaran Singh Teja, a carrer diplomet has been appointed India's Ambassador to Afghanistan.

— Information and Broadcasting Minister L.K. Advani, announced 26th National Film awards at a press-conference. Golden Lotus was announced for a Bengali feature film, "Ganadevta" (People, the God) for best feature film with mass appeal, wholesome entertainment and aesthetic value. Silver Lotus for best director was announced for Tarun Majumdar. The prestigious Dadasaheb Phalke award for outstanding contribution to the cause of Indian cinema was announced for 75-year-old Rai Chand Boral.

— Justice A.N. Grover, former judge of the Supreme Court, has been nominated Chairman of the Press Council of India.

4 The 13-day old strike by the employees of the Hindustan Times and allied publications was called off.

— The Government announced a new drug prices control order with major changes in the fixation of prices of formulation and bulk drugs produced in the country. Prices of several essential drugs have been reduced under the Drugs (Price Control) Order, 1979 effective from March 31 last which replaces the order of 1970.

— R.K. Gupta and Imdad Sabri were re-elected Mayor and Deputy mayor for the third successive term at a special meeting of the Delhi Municipal corporation.

— R.K. Karanjia—editor in Chief of Blitz publications and Hasan Kamal, editor of Urdu Blitz resigned from India-Pakistan Association in protest against the execution of Z.A. Bhutto. Mr. Karanjia was the Vice-President and Mr. Kamal General Secretary of the association.

April 4	Three persons were killed and seven seriously injured in police firing in different parts of the Kashmir valley while protesting against the execution of Z.A. Bhutto.
5	Dr. V. Raghavan, eminent indologist and a distinguished scholar in the performing arts, died. Dr. Raghavan (71) was one of the founder-member and a fellow of the Sangeet Natak Akademi.
—	Five day fiirst session of the Indo-Mauritian Joint Commission on economic, technical and cultural cooperation, which was co-chaired by External Affairs Minister A B. Vajpayee and his Mauritian counterpart Radindrah Ghurburan, ended. According to the minutes of the Commission, the two Foreign Ministers signed, Indian assistance will be provided in the development of small scale Industries, agricultural and rural development, public transport, medical facilitiies, meterology and tourism.
—	A substantial increase in the prices of pig iron and steel was announced by the Government in the Lok Sabha.
—	Union Law Minister Shanti Bhushan left for Geneva to lead the Indian delegation to the UN Conference on the law of the Sea.
—	A.V.P. Asai Thampi, a member of Lok Sabha and assistant general secretary of the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) died of cerebral haemorrage at Port Blair. Mr. Thampi, 58, one of the founder members of the DMK was the lone member of the party in the Lok Sabha. Mr. Asai Thampi was a journalist, script writer, trade unionist and an orator.
—	Former International footballer Sushil Guha died after a heart attack. He was 51. Mr. Guha started his football career in Kalighat Club as right-back in 1949. He joined Mohan Bagan in 1952 and played for nine years till retirement from the game. He began his international career as a member of the Indian team that participated in the Quadrangular tournament in 1955 and later played for the country during the pre-olympic tournament in Kabul.
—	India won two awards at the Festival of Agrarian Cinema in Zaragoza (Spain).
8	Assam Governor declared the Cachar, North Cachar and Karbi Anlong districis of Assam as disturbed areas for one year under the Armed Forces Act, 1958. a notification said the measure has been taken in view of the prevailing situation created by miscreants in the area.
—	Prof. V.A. Attekar, Director National Metallurgical Laboratory, Jamshedpur, has been chosen by the board of

trustess of the Colorado School of Mines, U.S. for award of the distinguished achievement medal for 1979 in recognition of his contribution in the general field of mineral engineering. This is the first time that this prestigious award has been conferred on any Indian citizen. The award is to be presented to Mr. Altekar at a special function to be held in Colorado on 11th May.

April 8 A three member delegation of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party arrived in New Delhi on a 10-day visit at the invitation of the Communist Party of India.

— Four persons were injured, two of them seriously when eight rear bogies of the Varanasi - Dadar Express were derailed between Asavali and Ghoti stations on the Nasik Igatpuri section of the Central railway.

— K.G. Sebastian (Kerala Congress) Thalai Kunnil Basheer (Congress), both candidates of the ruling front and K. Chathunni Master (CPI-M) of the Opposition front were declared elected to the Rajya Sabha from Kerala.

— The rate of exchange] of the rupee against sterling was revised downwards for the second time in less than a month, this time by just over 2% compared to 1.8% on 13th March.

— Reported that S. Venkataraghavan has been unanimously elected as captain of the Indian cricket team to tour England.

10 Libya agreed to supply 2.5 million tonnes of crude to India during the next tweleve months. This was announced by the Petroleum Minister, H.N. Bahuguna in Tripoli after discussions with the Libyan leaders.

— Mani Ram Bagri, M.P. (Janata) announced his resignation from all Janata Party posts.

— Reported the Satyajit Ray will be one of the judges at the 32nd Cannes Film Festival to be held from 10th to 24th May.

11 Dr. Atma Ram, Chairman of the National Committee on Science and Technology resigned as a member of Atomic Energy Commission. Dr. Atma Ram was appointed Chairman of the NCST and member of the AEC after the Janata Government came to power. Though Dr. Atma Ram has not dwelt at length in his resignation letter why he wished to resign, it is understood that in the present AEC set up he found he could not play any effective role.

April 11 Congress (I) President Indira Gandhi described as "mischievous, motivated and absolutely baseless" the former US Ambassador, Daniel Patrick Monihan's allcegations that the American Government had given money to the then ruling Congress Party twice for elections and once to her. This was disclosed by Monihan in his book "a dangerous Peace".

— The Mayor, R.K. Gupta has left for Rome to attened the 8th International Conference of Mayors of major cities. The Conference was held at Milan from 17—19th April and in Turin from 19—21st April.

— Mob violence erupted in several parts of Jamshedpur city. The clash came when a Ramnaumi procession passing through a mosque at Purulia highway in the Mango area of Jamshedpur was attacked. At least six persons were killed and 80 injured in mob violence and police firing following attack on Ramnaumi procession. On 12th April orders to shoot at sight anyone including in violence and arson were issued to troops tongith and people warned against coming out of their homes as riots in the city continued for the second day. Besides this curfew was also imposed. On 13th April the curfew was extended till dawn of next day and all incoming and outgoing routes sealed as stray incidents of mob violence and finding by the police and armed personnel continued for the third consecutive day. According to reports received on 17th April the riot torn city was limping back to normal with no major incident of violence reported from any area. On 19th April banks and offices functioned and women and Chidren were seen on the street for the first time since riots broke out in Jamshedpur. Cinemas, schools and colleges, however have yet to open, meanwhile the death toll has risen to 115.

— Seven people including three police officers and four Nihangs were killed in nightlong clash at the historic gurdwara in Khera village of Faridkot. The incident involved an armed group of Nihangs, said to be opposed to Baba Santa Singh, the Nihang Chief, and the police.

— Shyamlal Gaur, nominee of the Janata party, was elected Mayor of Ujjain.

— Two passengers were killed and 28 injured, 11 of them seriously when a coach of a Suburban train in Bombay caught fire. The accident occured between Kalyan and Vithal-Vadi station, about 45 km from Bombay.

12 Despite strong opposition from members from Kerala, Lok Sabha adopted a private member's resolution directing the Government "to ensure a total ban on the slaughter of cows". The resolution moved by Dr. Ramji Singh (Janata) was carried by 42 to 8 votes with 12 abstentions.

April	12	Murari Lal Nirmal, a Janata Leader, died in Ludhiana, He was 60.
	—	The Union Government fixed wheat price, for 1979-80, marketing season at Rs. 115 a quintal and the issue price at Rs. 130 a quintal.
	—	A well known music composer, Jamal Sen of Sujangarh, Rajasthan, died.
	13	The 24-day old strike by Delhi school teachers was called off following an appeal by the Education Minister, P.C. Chunder.
	—	Information and Broadcasting Minister L.K. Advani inaugurated the Jullundur TV centre.
	—	O.P. Sharma, top ranking photo artist has won the "Pewter Merlion award" for the second year in succession His picture titled "The Old Master" was adjudged best in the thirtieth international exhibition of photography held in Singapore. Mr. Sharma is a fellow of the Royal Photographer Society of London.
	14	Announced that Mrs. Dina Keki Mehta, fiction editor in "The Illustrated Weekly of India" has won pride of place in the BBC world services first ever worldwide plywriting competition.
	—	Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Charan Singh laid the foundation-stone of a bridge over the Yamuna 6 km. from Baghpat.
	—	India's men took fourth place in the fifth Commonwealth Table tennis Championship held in Edinburgh when they lost 1-5 to Australia. The Indian women team took the third position.
	—	President Sanjiva Reddy flagged off the first electric train on the Madras-Gummidipundi Section of the Southern Railway.
	—	Punjab Police retained the fabulous Bombay Gold and in its Silver Jubilee year by beating holders EME 5-3 in a tie-breaker after the rivals both from Jullundur had stood level, with a goal each at half time.
	15	B. T. Ranadive was re-elected President of the Centre of Indian Trade Union (CITU) on the concluding day of the fourth conference of CITU held in Madras. P. Ramamuthy was elected as general secretary. Nine Vice-Presidents were also elected. The West Bengal Chief Minister, Jyoti Basu, was one among them. Samar Mukherjee leader of the CPI (M) group in the Lok Sabha was elected treasurer.
	—	Deputy Prime Minister Jagajivan Ram opened the powder mettallurgy plant of the Mishra Dhatu Nigam Ltd. in Hyderabad.

April	15	The Editors Guild of India elected Romesh Thapar as its Preisdent for 1979, Kuldeep Nayar was elected Secretary and K. Nagendra Treasurer.
	—	Prime Minister Morarji Desai formally inaugurated the new Kanyakumari-Trivandrum broad gauge railway lines.
	—	Thirteen people were killed and 19 others were injured in a bus accident at Mottupalayam on the Tiruvannamali-Vellore highway, in South Arcot district.
	16	Fifteen road workers were killed and seven seriously injured after what is believed to be an explosion, following lightning, which tare through a but near Shogi, about 13 km. from Simla.
	—	The former Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, her then Additional Private Secretary, R. K. Dhawan and D. Sen, former Director of the CBI were charge-sheeted in the Court of the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate P. S. Sharma, in one of the Shah Commission cases. The charge against them was one of criminal conspiracy to institute false cases against four Government officials collecting information on Maruti to answer Parliament questions.
	—	Reported that Russia and India have signed an agreement for cooperation in the field of non-ferrous metals.
	—	Prime Minister Morarji Desai accompanied by Foreign Minister A.B. Vajpayee and entourage arrived in Dacca on an Official visit. He was received at the airport by General Zia-Ur-Rahman and other Bangla leaders. Shortly after arrival, Mr. Desai formally called on the Bangladesh President. The two leaders stayed together for two hours, discussing a wide range of subjects covering bilateral, regional and international issues. The External Affairs Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, who accompanied the Prime Minister and the Bangladesh Foreign Minister Shamshul Haque, were present at the talks for the first half hour. Later the two leaders continued their talks without aids. The two Foreign Ministers also met assisted by officials, and discussed among other things, the illegal movement of the people between Bangladesh on the one hand and the Indian States of Assam, Tripura and Mizoram on the other and agreed that illegal movement across the Indo-Bangladesh border on the eastern side must be stopped. Both sides reaffirmed the principle of non interference in each others affairs and pledged that no assistance would be given to dissident elements by any of them in other country. It was agreed that officials, at the local level, of the two countries should meet and provide details of such movement to each other so that this problem does not crops up as an irritant in the relations between the two countries. At the official level talks two working groups were also set up to suggest steps to increase the cooperation between the two countries in specified fields. Further talks between the two

countries were held up on 17th April on the basis of the recommendation of the working groups. On 18th April a first communique was issued simultaneously at Dacca and New Delhi at the conclusion of Prime Minister Morarji Desai's two-day visit and talks with President Zia-Ur-Rahman. The Communique advocated optimum utilisation of the ganga water and agreed that immediate action be taken by the Joint Rivers Commission to solve differences. The Commission would also work out an agreement on the sharing of the Teesta waters at an early date. The two countries have also agreed to remove the difficuties in implementing the 1974 land boundary agreement and resume discussion to resolve the maritime boundary question on a mutually satisfactory basis. The communique identified new fields of economic co-operation between the two countries as establishment of joint ventures in Bangladesh, including export-oriented projects, for manufacture of cement sponge iron and urea fertiliser. New initiative in trade, agriculture, shipping and technical fields were indicated at the talk. India agreed to give Bangladesh 2 lakh tones of grain on barter terms on deferred payment. Abont 1.5 lakh tones would be provided in rice and rest in wheat.

April 17 Ten Cabinet Ministers, three Ministers of State and three Parliamentary Secretaries belonging to the former Jana Sangh, Congress (O) and BLD, resigned signalling their intention to work for the ouster of Bihar Chief Minister Karpoori Thakur on 19th April when he is supposed to seek a vote of confidence from the Janata Legislature Party. Finance Minister Kailashpati Mishra, no. 2. in the Karpoori Thakur Cabinet, belonging to the former Jana Sangh, announced at the crowded conference that they were resigning to form a better Government on 19th April. The Cabinet Ministers who tendered their resignations were Finance Minister Kailashpati Mishra, Industry Minister, Thakur Prasad, Transport Minister, Shankar Prasad Tekriwal, Rural Development Minister Jagbandhu Adhikari, Forest Minister Lalit Oraon, Information Minister, Mahadeo Marand, Welfare Minister, Rameshwari Paswan (all Jan Sangh), Higher Education Minister Thakur Prasad Singh, Animal Husbandry Minister Ramchandra Singh Yadav (both Congress O) and Labour Minister Shamsher Jung Bahadur Singh (BLD). The Ministers of State who resigned were: Mrs. Lalita Rajyalaxmi (Finance), Janardan Prasad Yadav (Industry), and Siyaram Thakur (cooperation) However Karpoori Thakur resigned on 19th April as Bihar's Chief Minister, after losing the confidence of the Janata legislature Party. He had lost by 30 votes. On 21st April, a two men-Bihar Ministry headed by Ram Sunder Das, who was unanimously elected leader of the Janata legisluture Party earlier in the day, was sworn-in in the evening. The person to be sworn-in along with Mr. Das was Kailashpati Mishra.

— The Union Industry Ministry has ordered investigation by a committee into the affairs of Association Journals Limited located at New Delhi and Lucknow, printers and publishers of "National Herald", "Navajivan" and "Quomi Awaz."

April 18 Assam Chief Minister Golap Borbora dismissed two Parliamentary Secretaries Silvius Gondpan and Afzalor Rahman with immediate effect. The two Parliamentary Secretaries have joined the dissident group of the Assam Janata Legislature Party which has been demanding that Chief Minister should seek a fresh vote of confidence from the Party.

— Haryana Chief Minister Devi Lal announced the decision to drop Ministers who are maintaining RSS connections. The immediate provocation has come from Bihar where all the Jan Sangh Ministers resigned en bloc from the Karpoori Thakur Ministry. On 17th April—48 hours before the Chief Minister was to seek a confidence vote. Devi Lal said that he saw this act as "Stabbing" Mr. Thakur in the back. On 19th April four Haryana Ministers, said to be having links with RSS were dismissed on the advice of the Chief Minister Devi Lal. The four Ministers whose dismissal has been announced were Dr. Mangal Sein, Ram Lal Wadhwa, Mrs. Kamla Verma and Bir Singh. Dr. Mangal Sein was no. 2 in the cabinet.

— Three Ministers belonging to the dissident group in the Himachal Pradesh Janata Party quitted the Shanta Kumar Ministry in order to be free to vote against the Chief Minister at the Janata Legislature Party meeting to be held on 19th April. The Chief Minister however won by a margin of four votes. Twenty nine votes were cast in his favour and 25 against.

19 The Indian Defence Ministry and British Aerospace have signed two detailed agreements on the import and manufacture in India of the Jaguar, the deep penetration and strike aircraft which is to be used by the Indian Air Force. These agreements are a follow-up of the basic agreements signed last year between the British Government and the Indian Defence Ministry and British Aerospace.

20 Ahmed Obeid al-Fadhli Minister of Trade and Supplies of the Government of Peoples Democratic Republic of Yemen arrived in India.

— Bal Krishan Kaul, a former Finance Minister of Rajasthan, died, He was 76.

— Dr. Manzur Ahmed, former MLA and freedom fighter, died. He was 74.

— An estimated six shops and three offices were destroyed in a fire which broke out in the congested Sadar Bazar area in Delhi.

— External Affairs Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, arrived in the United States for the fourth session of the Indo-US. Joint Commission.

— Orissa Chief Minister, Nilamani Routray won a vote of confidence by a margin of 14 votes in the 117—strong Janta Legislature Party.

— S.K. Patil joined Congress (I) and attended the Congress (I) working commitee meeting as a special invitee.

April 20 While accepting the findings of the P. Jaganmohan Reddy Commission which inquired into the Nagarwala affairs, the Government announced in Lok Sabha, that it proposes to reopen the case registered with Delhi Police regarding breach of trust. Adminstrative action will be taken against the officers responsible for shortcomings in the investigation of the Nagarwala case.

— U.S. dollar became costlier by ten paise following the revision by the Reserve Bank of India of rates for buying and selling of the dollar currency notes by the banks, money changers, from the tourists and the public. The new rates fixed by the RBI, were-buying Rs. 8 and selling Rs. 8.40.

21 Former Goa Law Minister Shankar Laad was expelled from the ruling Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party (MGP). This was announced by the Chief Minister Mrs. Shashikala Kakodkar. On 23rd April amidst unprecedented scenes of violence in the Goa Assembly, speaker Narayan Fugro declared the Shashikala Kakodkar Ministry defeated on a cut motion on a budgetary demand. Mrs. Kakodkar maintained that the speaker's ruling was not acceptable as he was not in his chair. Lt. Governor P.S. Gill advised the Centre that dissident leader Shankar laad had the necessary support to form a new Ministry. On 26th April Mrs. Kakodkar submitted her resignation to the Lieutenant—Governor. The resignation came after four days of unsuccessful efforts by her to Challenge the Speaker, Narayan Fugro's verdict that she had been defeated on a budgetary demand. On 28th April Union Territory of Goa was placed under President rule for the first time since it came into existence 16 years ago and the 30-member Assembly dissolved to pave the way for fresh elections.

— Two-day session of the AICC (I) started in New Delhi. The issue of Sanjay Gandhi's involvement in politics sparked off a lively debate on the first day of the Session Opposition to Sanjay Gandhi's involvement in Congress (I) politics voiced directly.

22 Acharya Vinoba Bhave started an indefinite fast at his ashram Punar after telling an anxious gathering he hoped it would Inspire West Bengal and Kerala to impose the complete ban on cow slaughter. However Acharya Bhave ended his five-day old fast on 26th April after assurances from the Union Government that it will amend the constitution for a country wide ban on cow slaughter which he has demanded.

23 An agreement for the operation of air services between India and Syria was signed in New Delhi. The agreement provides for operation of two air services per week by each of the designed Air-lines of India and syria on specified routes.

— Foreign Minister Atal Bihari Vajpapee arrived in Washington for two days of top-level talks with U.S. officials. On 24th April Mr. Vajpayee met US President Carter and began the

		serious business of discussing US shipments of nuclear fuel to India. Present during the discussion was also US Secretary of State Cyrus Vance. On 24th April it was reported that Mr. Vajpayee has failed to get President Carter to lift a ban on Providing nuclear fuel for Tarapur after 1980. Mr. Vajpayee returned to Delhi.
April	23	Phusa Ram wrested the Narnaul Assembly seat from the Janata Party by a margin of 655 votes.
	—	President of the Maharashtra Ekikaran Samiti (MES) Babu Rao Thakur, died. He was 81.
	—	Prof. Ram Singh of New Delhi has been elected president of the Akhil Bharat Hindu Mahasabha.
	24	The Lok Sabha passed the Bill providing for the appropriation out of the Consolidated Fund of India of a total amount of nearly Rs. 46,805 crore to meet the expenditure of the Central Government, excluding Railways, for 1979-80.
	—	Reported that India and Nepal agreed to set up three hydro-electric and six irrigation projects and a paper pulp factory in the joint sector.
	—	Three newly elected members of Rajya Sabha took oath as members of the Rajya Sabha. They were Chantunni Master CP (IM), T. Bashir (Congress) and K.C. Sebastian (Kerala Congress)
	25	Shadi Singh, editor of Akali Patrika, died. He was 65.
	27	C.M. Stepnen and Kamlapati Tripathi were lected leader of the Congress-I respectively. Pranab Mukherjee was elected deputy leader of the Rajya Sabha. All were elected 2nopposed.
	—	The Finance Bill, seeking to give effect to the budgetary proposals for the financial year 1979-80, was passed by the Lok Sabha, with a few Government amendments embodying the modifications made in the proposals since the measure was first introduced. Out of original Taxation proposals for Rs. 555 crores, the Finance Minister announced reliefs to the extent of Rs. 48 crores in customs and excise levies in two instalments.
	27	Sanjay Gandhi was lodged in the district jail in Dehra Dun following the cancellation of his bail by Special Judge P.K. Aggarwal in the Maruti roadroller case. The judge cancelled the bail of Mr. Gandhi and another accused R.K. Trikha, as they failed to appear before him for the hearing. Sanjay Gandhi was released on 28th April.
	—	Top Naxalite leader Kanu Sanyal and 11 other were acquitted in the "Parvathipuram conspiracy case" by a division bench of the Andhra Pradesh high court.
	28	Four persons were killed and several injured when a private bus fell into a canal near Budge road 24-pargana in Calcutta.

April 27 At least nine people were killed and many others injured when a bus carrying them skidded into a roadside ditch at Gromarjala, about 14 km from Calcutta.

28 Four persons were killed on the spot and about a dozen others injured when a State Transport bus fell into a ditch in Fateha Village in Samastipur district.

29 Brigadier Sailo's Peoples Conference was returned to power getting an absolute majority by capturing 17 seats in the mid term polls to the 33-members Assembly.

— The Chief of the Army Staff, General O. P. Malhotra, left on an eight day visit to Australia.

— Five people were killed when a tempo collided with a bus near Pandav across the Malviya Bridge in Varanasi.

– The Haryana Agriculture University conferred an honouary doctorate on Deputy Prime Minister Charan Singh. The degree was conferred in absentia as Charan Singh could not receive it in persons because of indeiposition.

— Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh, veteran freedom fighter died at All India Institute of Medical Sciences. He was 93. He belonged to a group known as the Indian Revolutionary Association which fought for the Independence from outside with the help of foreign powers. He declared a provisional Government of free India in 1915 in Kabul, Afghanistan with himself as President and Maulana Barkatulla as Prime Minister. In search of help Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh took a delegation of the Provisional Government of Moscow in 1919 and met Lenin, the head of the then soviet Government. Because of his contacts, Lenin developed a deep sympathy for freedom.

— A violent high velocity squall ripped through parts of Bihar leaving a trial of at least 20 dead and large-scale devastation.

30 Dr. Abburi Ramakrishna Rao, the Telugu writer, poet and playwright, died. He was 83. A freedom fighter who had taken part in the pro-Gandhian struggles against British rule. Dr. Rao was a close associate of M. N. Roy. Dr. Rao had written a "Burra Katha" (folk tale) in Telugu in 1919 on the Jallianwalabagh masacre, which was banned by the British Government. He was awarded the title of Kala Prapurna by Andhra University in 1974. A founder-member of the All India Progressive writers Association Dr. Rao presided over its Patna Session. He was also the editor of its journal, "Indian Literature".

— The General Secretary of the Janata Party, Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi, has sent two letters to Raj Narain seeking his explanation for nine statements against the Prime Minister. These Statements were issued by the former Union Minister between September, 1, 1978 and January 24, 1979.

April 30 Information and Broadcasting Minister L.K. Advani informed the Rajya Sabha that the Government has decided in principle to have "one organisation" for All India Radio and Doordarshan.

— Home Minister H.M. Patel, stated in both Houses of Parliament, that Justice C.A. Vaidialingam, retired judge of Supreme Court will look into the charges made against the members of the families of Prime Minister Morarji Desai and the Deputy Prime Minister Charan Singh to ascertain if any Prima facie case exists in respect of any of the charges made against them in Parliament. Justice Vaidialingam's name was suggested by the Chief Justice of India, who was originally assigned this task on a request made by the Government after the latter expressed the feeling that were he to conduct these inquiries the office of the Chief Justice would be dragged into a public controversy affecting the image of that high office.

— The first phase of Cabinet expansion in Bihar was completed with the swearing-in of six more Ministers. With these additions the strength of the new Ministry headed by Ram Sundar Das stands at eight. Mr. Das and Kailashpati Mishra took oath in the first lot on 21st April. The new Ministers are Muneshwar Prasad Singh (Socialist), Lalit Oraon (Jan Sangh) Tej Narain Yadav (rebal BLD), Deo Narain Yadav (CFD) Anirud Prasad (Congress O) and Mohammed Sayeed (Sarvodaya).

— India and Senegal signed a protocol on industrial and economic cooperation, under which India will help Senegal in establishing several projects. These include manufacture of farm implements, light tractors, automotive spares, industrial estates, electronics, textiles fertilizers development of handicrafts. Indian expertise would be extended for utilization of raw materials and training of artisans and craftsmen for rural, cottage and small-scale industries.

— Munder Sharma, editor of a local daily newspaper and Congress (I) nominee, was elected mayor of Jabalpur at the 80 member civic body election.

— Raja Shankar Pratap Singh Ju Deo of Chichli in Hashangabad district, died. Pratap Singh, who was 58, was a member of the Rajya Sabha.

— T.S. Srinivasan, Chairman of Sundaram Clayton and Director Messrs T.V. Sundaram Iyengar and Sons, died. He was 57.

— The 44th Constitution Amendment Bill ratified by a majority of States received the President's assent and became an Act with immediate effect. The Act provides safequards against the misuse of executive powers and indiscriminate imposition of emergency. It also provides that the Fundamental Rights, including those of life and liberty cannot be demolished sweepingly by a transient majority.

May 1 Thousands of Youth Congress followers led by Mr. Sanjay Gandhi held demonstration in New Delhi. About 400 of them including Mr. Gandhi, were arrested on charges of attempt to murder, rioting, assaulting public servant on duty and damaging property. The police lobbed 25 teargas shells and used lathis to disperse the mob. At least a dozen policemen and shopkeepers and an equal number of demonstrators were injured. The injured included Mr. Gandhi, two Congrees (I) MPs K. Ramalingam and M. Arunachalam, and Deputy Commissioner P.R.S. Brar. The Youth Congress (I) had given a call for a "mass rally", to demand, among other things, the withdrawal of the anti-people Special Courts Bill. The arrested persons were remanded in judicial custody until 14th May by S.K. Tandon, Metropolitan Magistrate after a three hour courtroom drama. On 2nd May Sanjay Gandhi refused to come out of jail despite release orders by a Metropolitan Magistrate following acceptance of bail bonds furnished for him and 40 of his supporters. Mr. Gandhi said that he would not go out unless all other 250 Youth Congress (I) workers arrested with him were released. Sanjay Gandhi, however left jail on 3rd May, when the jail authorities received release order for all.

— Five persons were killed on the spot and about one dozen injured when a mini bus carrying a marriage party collided head on with a truck coming from Indore near Barwaha rail level crossing about 50 km from Khandwa.

— Four Air Force personnel were killed when a helicopter crashed near Maocherikalan village, 45 km from Patiala. The four were identified as Squadron Ldr Rane, Flight Lt. Sarin, Corporal M. Singh and Corporal Pandurang.

— K.P.S. Menon, former Indian Ambassdor in Moscow and now President of Indo-Soviet Cultural Society, has been awarded the International Lenin Prize for his outsanding services in the struggle for the preservation and strengthening of peace.

— L. Meenakshi Sundaram, special correspondent of Nava Shakthi, Madras, has been re-elected President of the National Union of Journalists (India) for 1979 and 1980. Rajendra Prabha special correspondent of the Hindustan Times, has been elected unopposed as the Secretary General (NUJ).

— Manudutt Shastri, a freedom figther who has been ailing for sometime, died. He was 70.

May	1	President N. Sanjiva Reddy released a commemorative stamp in honour of Rajarishi Shaha Chhatrapati describing him as a pioneer of social reform in Maharashtra.
	—	The Railways introduced a biweekly supperfast express train between Ahmedabad and Delhi on the broad gauge route via Vadodra. The train is supposed to cover 1,096 km in less than 17 hours either way. The train is named "Sarvodaya Express".
	—	S.D. Punekar, noted Labour economist died. He was 63 Mr. Punekar was a member of National Labour Commission
	2	Eight persons were killed and 40 injured, 10 of them seriously, when a truck carrying a marriage party everturned near Dhimshri Village, 30 km from Agra.
	—	Four persons were killed, two on the spot, and more than 20 others injured when a mini-bus in which they were travelling collided head on with a truck on Dhanbad-Govindpur road, five km from Dhanbad.
	—	An Indian TV documentary on bio-gas use has won the prestigeous West German award "Prix Futrura" at the International Radio and Television Programmes Competition organised by the Europoan Broad casting union in Berlin. The documentary "Asha Ki Kiran" was produced and directed by H.R. Salooja of the Delhi Television Centre. It narrates India's experiment with bio-gas as a source of cheap energy.
	—	The Janata Party Parliamentary Board decided to issue show cause notices to Devi Lal, Haryana Chief Minister, and to Mrs. Chandravatil President of the Haryana Janata Party, as to why disciplinary action should not be taken against them for working against the Party candidate in the recent by-election to the Haryana Assembly from Narnaul. On 3rd May 46 members were served notices by the JPP seeking their explanation on complaints of indiscipline pending against them.
	—	Mohammed Ishaq Khan, a former Nawab, died. He was 67. He was a social worker and honorary magistrate.
	3	About half of Devigaon village, 6 km from Khandwa was reduced to ashes in a fire.
	—	Avtar Narain Gujral, a veteran freedom fighter and father of I.K. Gujral, India's Ambassader to the Soviet Union and Satish Gujaral, died in New Delhi. He was 86. Mr. Gujral was a member of the Pakistan Constituent Assembly. He migrated to India and later became deputy leader of the Punjab Congress legislatures party.

May 3 The Cement price exclusive of excise duty and packing charges will go up by Rs. 25.68 a tonne from Rs. 293.26 to Rs. 318.94 following the new pricing policy announced in the Parliament.

— Dr. Nripendra Nath Sen, 55, a prominent psychologist died. Dr. Sen joined Kashi Vidyapeeth as Head of the Psychology Department sometime back. He was also Director of National Council of Educational Research and Training, Delhi.

— Egypt's Vice-President Hosny Mubarak arrived in New Delhi to explain to Indian leaders the details of peace treaty Egypt has signed with Israel. The Egyptian leader was received at the airport by A.B. Vajpayee.

— The Lok Sabha passed the Aligarh Muslim University (Amendment) Bill after the Government turned down demands for declaring the University as a minority institution.

— President, N. Sanjiva Reddy, in his capacity as Visitor of Delhi University suspended the operation of the amended Ordinance XXVIII by which research scholarships in Sociology were enhanced from Rs. 300 to Rs. 40 . This was the first time in the history of the University that the Visitor has struck down an Ordinance relating to increase in scholarship.

— Seven persons were crushed to death when a truck ploughed into a rickshaw on the Moradabad-Delhi road near Gajraula near Moradabad.

— Ten people were killed on the spot and 33 injured in a bus accident near Parvati Village on Bihar-U.P. border in Rohtas district in Gaya.

— Two new Ministers were sworn in raising the strength of the Haryana Ministry to 13. This was the first expansion of the Cabinet after four former Jana Sangh Ministers were dismissed. The Ministers who took oath were Deep Chand Bhatia of Faridabad and Hukam Singh of Dadri. Deep Chand recently announced that he had severed his connections with the Jana Sangh group and the RSS.

— The World Bank announced a loan of $ 48 million to India for water and sewerage improvements. The loan to be repaid in 50 years, including 10 years of grace, will be made by International Development Association, an affiliate of the World Bank. Though no interest will be charged, IDA will collect an annual Service charge of three quarters of one percent.

4 D.D. Pugh's Meghalaya Ministry was defeated by a solitary vote in the Assembly and Governor L.P. Singh cleared the formation of a new Ministry by his opponent B.B. Lyngdoh on 7th May. Within hours of his Ministry's defeat by a

29-30 verdict in the 60-member Assembly, the Chief Minister tendered his resignation to the Governor. The showdown came when a Government motion seeking reaffirmation of confidence of the House in Mr. Pugh's APHLC Ministry fell through.

May 4 Gudipati Venkatachalam, well known telugu writer died. He was 84.

— India has agreed to loan Bangladesh 50,000 tonnes of wheat and 150,000 tonnes of rice to be repaid in kind. The shipment of wheat would be completed this May while rice would be made available between June and August. The wheat loan is to be repaid by Bangladesh within eight month from completion of supplies to Bangladesh while rice will be repaid in kinds in two years. Quality of both the commodities have been specified in the agreement.

— Prof. G.H. Forbes, a distinguished American scholar and writer has been selected for the coveted "Rabindra Award" for 1978 for her book"Positivism in Bengal".

5 Eight persons, including seven women were killed and three others sustained severe burn injuries when a huge fire broke out in a cotton ginning factory at Dhandhuka town, about 100 km from Ahmedabad.

— Fifteen persons, including five girls, were killed, when a balcony on which they were watching a marriage party gave way in Bilaripur village about 25 km from Fatehpur.

— Four persons were killed and 61 injured when a UP Transport Corporation bus coming from Mussoorie skidded down a nullah at Masonic lodge, 34 km from Dehra Dun.

6 Indo-Arab Cultural Relations Council was inaugurated, in Lucknow, by Deputy Prime Minister, Jagjivan Ram.

— Sanjay Gandhi, along with 200 workers of the Youth Congress (I) was arrested in Lucknow. Sanjay Gandhi who arrived in Lucknow from Jamshedpur to participate in Youth Congress rally was arrested for defying prohibitory orders under section 144.

— Shankar Gouda T. Patil, member of the Bombay Legislative Assembly and former Senator of the Karnataka University, died. He was 80. He was a noted social worker and educationist.

Some 40 persons were injured when the 433 UP Kharagpur-Asansol passenger train collided head on with a goods train in Khargpur.

May 7 Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister M. Chenna Reddy asked at least seven of his Cabinet colleagues to tender their resignations "for facilitating the reconstitution" of his Cabinet. The seven Ministers from whom resignations were sought were :—Veeramachaneni Venkatanarayan, G.V. Sudhakar Rao, Manik Rao, K.B. Narasappa, V. Nageswara Rao, S. Venkata Reddy and M.S.V. Prasada Rao.

— Forty one passengers were injured, four seriously, when two buses collided head on near Punvel in Kulaba district. The buses involved in the accident were a private Bombay-Goa luxury bus and a Bombay State Transport bus.

— The Government announced the appointment of a working group headed by Kannada novelist K. Shivram Karnath to evolve a national film policy to assist in the growth of a health cinema in the country.

— India and the Soviet Union signed a protocol on cooperation in specific areas of coal development in India. The protocal signed at the end of a meeting of the working group of coal industry under the Indo-USSR Joint Commission stipulates upgradation of washery middlings into clean coking coal suitable for steel plants. Pressently middlings for wastes of washeries cannot be used by the steel plants.

— Madam Nguyen Thi Binh Vietnam's Education Minister arrived in New Delhi as a special envoy of her Government. She has brought a special message from Hanoi.

— Naxalite leader Kanu Sanyal and Sourin Bosu were released from the Alipore central jail on orders from the Andhra Pradesh Government.

— Rajya Sabha passed the Finance Bill.

— Ten persons were killed and six injured in a fire which broke out in a kerosene shop in Ganju Dundwara village, Etah district (Agra).

— A thirteen-member Meghalya Ministry led by Chief Minister B.B. Lyngdoh assumed office in succession to D.D. Pugh's Ministry which was ousted by a solitary vote in a trial of strength in the Assembly.

— V.B. Tharodekar, former Congress MP, died. He was 56.

May 8 The Centre announced its decision to introduce prohibition in the Pondicherry and Karaikal regions of the Union Territory from June this year. The President promulgated a regulation prohibiting manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquor and drugs in the two regions.

— India and Iran signed an agreement in Teheran, according to which Iran will supply 2.6 million tonnes crude oil to India this year. Loading of the crude was expected to start within a week. This was the first agreement to be signed between Government of India and the new Government of Iran. The crude is meant for the Madras refinery and general purposes. The supply is expected to fully cover India's requirements for the current financial year.

— Lok Sabha accepted without any modifications the amendments made to the Special Courts Bill by Rajya Sabha.

— Mizoram Ministry headed by Brig. T. Sailo was sworn-in in Aizawl. The installation of the Sailo Ministry brought to an end the six-month-old President's rule, imposed in November. The other four Ministers who were sworn-in were Lalhmingthanga, Zairem Thanga, P.B. Rosanga and F. Malsawoma.

— Moudud Ahmed, Deputy Prime Minister of Bangladesh and Minister for Power, Water Resources and Flood Control, arrived in New Delhi.

— V.K.M. Menon, Counsellor in the Indian High Commission London, was appointed the first resident Ambassador of India to Ivory Coast.

9 40 persons, all tourists from Madras were killed when the Bombay bound Jayanthi-Janata Express collided with a tourist bus at an unmanned level crossing at Akaparmba between Alwaye and Ankamali stations on the Cochin-Shornatur broad gauge section in the Olvakkot division of Southern Railway about 40 km from Cochin.

— The final report of the Grover Commission was laid down on the table of Lok Sabha. The Commission found eight allegations of favouritism and misuse of power to have been conclusively establised against the Karnataka Chief Minister Devaraj Urs and some of his Ministerial colleagues.

— A five member mission of leading engineering concerns, led by Dr. R.B. Behati, left for China to visit Canton fair.

— Ganapati Malaviya, a veteran journalist and freedom fighter, died. He was 63. Mr. Malaviya was also connected with various leftist trade unions and organisations. He had worked in the

"Navabharat", a Hindi daily from Indore, "Navprabhat" and many other newspapers.

May 9 Kamalahasan has been adjudged the best actor in Tamil and Malayam films in the 1978 Filmfare award for South Indian films. He gets the award for acting in Malayalam film "Yeeta" and Tamil film "Sigappa Rojakkal" (Red Roses).

— Lok Sabha passed a bill to allow a blind or physically incapacitated Member of Parliament to take an attendent with him on air journey.

10 President's rule in Pondicherry was extended for another Six months from May 12. The President's rule in this Union territory was imposed on November 12, 1978.

— Union Government appointed an economy Commission, headed by S.N. Mishra a Janata M.P., to make a comprehensive inquiry into the growing Government expenditure and to suggest substanial economies in it.

11 Well known Kannada film actress Kalpana was found dead in a room in a PWD inspection bangalow at Gotur near Sankeshwar, about 35 km from Belgaum.

12 Four people were killed and about 25 injured when a passenger train running from Pathankot to Nagrota was derailed.

— Twelve people were killed in wide-spread heavy rain in Tamil Nadu.

13 Four persons were drowned when a boat carrying 20 tourists capsized in the Fatehsagar lake in Udaipur.

— O.G. Tadhav, former Labour Commissioner of the Government of India, educationist and Social worker, died. He was 72.

14 About 8,000 Christians marched in procession through the Capital's streets in protest against the Freedom of Religion Bill introduced in the Parliament. The procession culminated in a rally at the Boat Club where Christian members of Parliament, a Sikh and a Muslim leader condemned the Bill as anti-secular and against national integration. A delegation later submitted a memorandum to Morarji Desai.

— Dinesh Singh, former Minister for External Affairs left on a fortnight visit to South-East Asian countries, as a special envoy of the Prime Minister.

— For the first time in the history of Indian Parliament, members of the ruling party staged a "dharna" inside the Lok Sabha

Chamber, after the House adjourned, to press their demands. The four Janta MPs-Ram Vilas Paswan, Ramdas Singh, Bharat Bhushan and B. Singh continued to sit in the house demanding an inquiry into the complaints, corruption and contract system in the Food Corporation of India.

May 14 Former ruler of Tikamgarh, Maharaja Devendra Singh, died.

— Jorubhai Gohil, MLA from Gogha, died. He was 52.

— The number of officially confirmed deaths in cyclone that battered coastal Andhra Pradesh and to a lessor extent northern Tamil Nadu was announced 102-84 in Andhra Pradesh and 18 in Tamil Nadu.

— Punjab Government announced major financial benefits for policemen and head constables by going a step ahead of the Pay Commission recommedations and offering Rs. 100 more to a policeman and Rs. 60 to a head constable.

15 Bihar Government appointed a three man Commission, headed by a retired judge of the Patna High Court, Jitendra Narain to inquire into the recent riots in Jamshedpur.

— Eight persons, including a child, were killed and 13 injured when two trucks collided on the National highway near Karanpura village about 15 km for Himmatnagar.

— Noted Tamil film director, T.N. Balu, died at Coimbatore.

— The value of dollar has gone up and that of pound sterling down vis-a-vis the rupee by 10 paise and 25 paise respectively with immediate effect.

16 Daya Ram Gandotra, Congress (I) leader, died. He was 55.

— The Government agreed to a minimum wage of Rs. 512 against the existing Rs. 438.

— Hitendra Desai was elected Deputy Leader of the Congress Parliamentary Party from the Lok Sabha. Ambika Soni and D. Desai were respectively elected Secretary and Treasurer from the Rajya Sabha. Digvijay Narain Singh and Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi were elected for the second time as general secretaries from the Lok Sabha.

— The Government appointed a seven member committee headed by the Janata Party member of the Rajya Sabha, Era Sezhiyan to review the working of the Life Insurance Corporation in all its major aspects and to suggest measures for improvement. The report is to be submitted within six months.

May 16 The Jana Sangh-Congress (O) combine captured all posts of office-bearers of the Parliamentary wing of the Janata Party. Sunder Singh Bhandari and Kunwar Mehmood Ali Khan were respectively elected Deputy Leaders from the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha, Ram Dhan was elected as treasurer and N.P.C. Naidu was elected as General Secretary from the Rajya Sabha. Digvijay Narain Singh and Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi were elected for the second term as General Secretaries from the Lok Sabha.

— Minister of State for External Affairs Samarendra Kundu returned after an eight-day goodwill tour of Bahrain, Muscat and Tunis.

— Mrs. Indira Gandhi led the procession rally from Red Fort to Ramlila ground against the Special Courts Bill.

— Rajasthan Finance Minister Adityendra and Labour Minister Kedar Nath Sharma announced their resignation from the Shekhawat Ministry. The Chief Minister had, earlier, asked the two Ministers to resign.

— Ramanand Agarwal, who had been a CPI member of the Rajasthan Assembly for 15 years, died. He was 63.

17 The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, M. Chenna Reddi, while talking to pressmen disclosed that the cyclone death toll has risen to 600 and the loss will be of the order of Rs. 500-crore in the two worst-hit districts of Prakasan and Nellore alone as per press report.

— Dr. Rafiq Zakaria was elected Deputy Leader (Rajya Sabha) of the Congress Parliamentary Party by a good majority.

— The Government experienced acute embarrassment, although no damage in the Lok Sabha when an official Constitution Bill (46th Amendment Bill) failed to muster the required special vote of a majority of the House's total membership. The voting which took place at the end of the first stage of the Bill's second reading, was 205 in favour (out of 215 member present) whereas it should have been 273.

— The Himachal Pradesh Ministry was expended with the induction of three Cabinet Ministers, five Ministers of State Chief Parliamentary Secretary and a Parliamentary Secretary. Sarwan Kumar, Shiv Kumar and Roop Singh Thakur were sworn-in as Cabinet Ministers while Kunj Lal Thakur, Gulab Singh, Nagin Chander Paul, Sadhu Ram and Roop Singh as Minister of State Maheshwar Singh and Chaman Lal took oath as Chief Parliamentary Secretary and Parliamentary Secretary respectively.

May 17 The nine-day-old agitation by Punjab constabulary appeared to have ended with reports of no fresh stir and a large number of policemen resuming their duties.

— Parliament approved three Bills seeking to give effect to the recommendations of the Seventh Finance Commission regarding the devolution of Central taxes to the States. The three Bills, earlier passed by the Lok Sabha and now returned by the Rajya Sabha were : Union Duties of Excise (Distribution) Bill 1979, the Additional Duties of Excise (Goods of Special Importance) Amendment Bill 1979 and Estates Duty (Distribution) Amendment, 1979.

— The President gave his assent to the Special Courts Bill adopted by both Houses of Parliament. It was notified in the Gazette of India as the Special Courts Act.

— The Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Charan Singh, announced in Lok Sabha, the appointment of an expert committee (Tax reform panel) with Professor V.M. Dandekar as its Chairman to make a study of tax laws to facilitate the use of tax instruments to promote employment.

— Eighteen members of an expedition from the Sonam Gyatso Mountaineering Institute, Gangtok climbed the 22,600 foot-high Siniolchu peak in the Kanchenjunga massif in four successive assaults from 18th to 23rd May. The peak has been climbed only once before by a German expedition in 1936.

— Nagendra Nath Jha, Ambassador to Dublin, has been appointed Ambassador to Turkey in succession to Shardul Bikram Shah.

18 A US dollar became cheaper by 10 paise following the revision by the Reserve Bank of India of the rates for buying and selling U.S. dollar currency notes by banks and money changers from tourists and the public with immediate effects. The new rates fixed were buying Rs. 8 and selling Rs. 8.40 per U.S. dollar. This was the second revision of the US dollar within last three days.

19 The ailing Hindi scholar and critic, Dr. Hazari Prasad Dwivedi, died. He was 72.

— The Conference of State Chief Ministers, began in New Delhi. The Ministers discussed the recommendations of the Ashoka Mehta Committee on Panchayati Raj and decided to appoint a committee of Chief Ministers to draft model guidelines for the States to legislate on such matters as the procedure for election to various bodies and on devolution in the financial and administrative power in the system on 20th May, Prime Minister Morarji Desai in his concluding remarks to the two-day Chief Ministers conference, rejected a demand by a majority of the States for including corporation tax and surcharge on income-tax in the divisible pool.

May 19 The External Affairs Ministers, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, left on his first official visit to four west Asian countries UAE, Kuwait, Syria and Iraq.

— In one of the worst fires in recent years, almost the whole establishment of the public sector Cement Corporation of India spread over five floors of an eight-storey building of Nehru Place, has been destroyed beyond repair. The loss estimated runs into lakhs.

— India and Mexico signed a cultural exchange programme for 1979-80 according to which the two countries will exchange academics to develop collaboration between institutions in the field of higher education. They will offer to each other four scholarships for post-graduate or higher studies and research. In the field of mass media, the two countries will exchange a journalist each for two to three weeks. They will also exchange programme depicting various facts of life in each country.

— Lata Mangeshkar has been selected to receive this year's Rashtra Bhushan award of Rs. one lakh instituted by the foundation of industrial enterprise, an organisation based at Ichalkaraaji in Kolhapur district. The award was instituted in 1977 to honour outstanding individual services to the nation. Jayaprakash Narayan was the first recepient of the award and Baba Amte, the Second.

— Prime Minister, Morarji Desai opened in New Delhi, the three day National Conference of Women and Development.

20 D.D. Gilder (96) an eminent Cardiac Surgeon, died in Bombay. Dr. Gilder was Health Minister of Bombay in Morarji Desai's cabinet. Dr. Gilder was a personal physician of Mahatma Gandhi. He was an eminent Physician and during the quit India-movement he was interned in Pune and was kept in the Aga Khan Palace to take care of Mahatama Gandhi's health.

— Mrs. Jankidevi Bajaj, wife of late Jamnalal Bajaj and mother of noted industrialist Ramkrishna Bajaj, died. Mrs. Bajaj, a close associate of Mahatma Gandhi, was 87 years old. She participated in the freedom movement and helped Mahatma Gandhi in his various missions at the Sewagram Ashram. She was also connected with Sarvodaya work. She was imprisoned many times during the freedom movement. Bhoodan leader Vinoba Bhave, lit the pyre of Mrs. Bajaj followed by Ramkrishna Bajaj who performed the last rights of his mother.

May 20 Prime Minister Morarji Desai announced that a Committee of the Chief Ministers with the Union Agriculture Minister, S.S. Barnala as Chairman, will examine the question of suggesting model legislation on Panchayat Raj Institutions. The Chief Ministers belong to Rajasthan, Kerala, Kernataka, Gujarat, Maharashthra, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Assam and Jammu and Kashmir.

— The Railway Minister Madhu Dandavate, dedicated to the nation the 190-Kilometre new Mangalore-Hasan line. The new line costing Rs. 42.37 crores was taken up for execution in 1965 as a phased programme.

— The Akali Dal won the Ferozepore Lok Sabha seat, where a repolling in the Fazilka segment was held on May 20, 1979. The Akali candidate, Mohinder Singh Sayanwala increased his lead by over 7,600 votes after counting in the Fazilka segment ended. A formal declaration of the result will be make by the Punjab and Haryana High Court which ordered the repolling following disputes over the number of votes cast in 1977 general election.

21 The first 236,000 KW turbe-generator of the Madras Atomic Power project at Kalpakkam, near Madras, was commissioned.

— The joint Indo-Soviet Textbook board signed a new agreement at Moscow on Translation and publication of 50 Soviet text books for undergraduates and graduate students.

— Sanjay Gandhi and Uttar Pradesh Youth Congress-I President Sanjay Singh, along with several other persons were arrested in Dehra Dun following a clash between Sanjay Gandhi's supporters and another group of youngmen.

22 B.S. Murthy, a veteran freedom fighter and former Union minister of State for Health, died. He was 74. Mr. Murthy was also a well known author and had written many books on the problems of Harijans.

— Pal Singh Roomi, an old freedom fighter, died.

— The Chief minister of Uttar Pradesh, Banarsi Das announced that the Government has decided to give one month's additional salary to all police and PAC personnel of the lower rank in view of the arduous duties they had to perform. He also announced that a committee is being appointed to look into the policemen's greivances and for solution of their difficulties.

— India became the first developing country to sign a multilateral agreement for technical cooperation with the Economic Commission for Africa. The agreement will supplement the bilateral cooperation pacts India has with about dozen African countries, while opening new vistas for cooperation in 35 other countries, which had hitherto depended on the West.

May 22 The strength of Bihar ministry was raised to 12 when four new ministers of Cabinet rank were sworn-in. The new ministers sworn-in were Rana Sheo Lakhpati Singh, S.Ali Haider, Mohun Ram and Lalmun Choubey.

— India recognised the provisional headquarters of the Arab League in Tunis. The Arab countries had recently decided to shift the league headquarters from Cairo to Tunis following the signing of the Egypt-Israel Peace treaty.

23 According to a press release of the World Bank the International Development Association (IDA) will give a credit of $ 175 million for a rural electrification project in India. The credit will support the overall lending programme of Rural Electrification Corporation limited (REC). It will help finance about 1,700 rural electrification schemes of the State Electricity Board (SEB) in 14 states. The credit will also be used to assist REC in carrying out two pilot-scheme a single phase scheme in Rajasthan and a power factor control scheme in Karnataka.

— Delhi was linked to six towns in Bihar through the Subscriber Trunk Dialling (STD). These are Chhapra, Samastipur, Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga, Arrab and Sasaram.

— Dr. G. Ramaswamy, Member (off-shore) of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission was removed from the service with immediate effect on his being found in contact with a foreign Government and a multinational oil company.

— India and Algeria signed a memorandum of understanding, which envisages that the Indian railways will carry out feasibility studies and construction of underground lines near Algeria. India has also agreed to help Algeria in setting up an organisation for achieving modernisation of operation of the existing net work, including extension of loop lines, remodelling of marshalling yards and construction of special sidings.

— Raghuraj Singh (73), freedom fighter and former (MLA), died.

— The Rajya Sabha adjourned sine die after a 30-day session.

24 India and America signed an agreement for carrying out scientific programmes for collection of data during monsoon experiment (MONEX-79).

— Mohinder Singh Sayanwala was declared elected formally, to the Lok Sabha from Ferozepure Parliamentary constituency.

May 24 Revati Kant Sinha, a former member of the Rajya Sabha and Bihar Legislative Council, died.

— Twenty passengers, including some Government railway policemen, were injured when the Moradabad-bound Hardwar-Chandusi passenger train collided head on with a goods train at Harthala, near Moradabad.

25 Home Minister, H.M. Patel announced the abolition of the feudal police orderly system and directed that a joint consultative machinery be set up in the form of staff councils for the police organisations under the Centre and in the Union Territories. He also fixed June 6 as the date for the Chief Minister's conference to arrive at a national consensus on uniformity in pay scales and other benefits for policemen.

— Lt. General H.C. Dutta, took over as Deputy Chief of Army.

26 The All-India Railway Employees Confederation withdrew its 19-day old work-to rule, according to a press release.

— The Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, V.K. Saklecha, announced in a broadcast certain benefits to policemen, in the State, who had been agitating for better working condition and pay scales. All the Jawans and Officers upon the rank of Inspector would get one month's additional pay and 15 days' extra casual leave in a year. Constables and Head Constables, Traffic branch district reserve police and special branch etc., would get a special pay of Rs. 25 and 30 per month respectively.

— Habib Tanvir, playwright, poet and critic and Dr. T.N. Ananthakrishnan, Zoologist, have been given the Jawaharlal Nehru fellowship.

— Indian Airlines, New Delhi, beat Army Service Corps, Jullunder, 4-1 to lift the Aga Khan Cup at the Bombay Gymkhana.

27 An indefinite curfew was imposed on various parts of Lucknow following clashes between traders and the police.

— Lok Sabha Speaker K.S. Hegde arrived in Kuala Lumpur for a three-day visit to Malaysia.

— Mir Mushtaq Ahmed, veteran freedom fighter, and former Chairman of the Delhi Metropolitan Council resigned from the Congress (I).

— Noted Urdu poet Rasajavidani of Bhadarwah died. He was 87.

May 27 Special allowances and a special pay to the police force in Kerala were announced w.e.f. from June 1. Constables, Head Constables/Havaldars and Assistant Sub-Inspectors of the local and Armed Reserve Wings will get a special monthly allowance of Rs. 20; Rs. 23 and Rs. 26 respectively. The special monthly allowance for Constables, head Constables/Havaldars and Assistant Sub-Inspectors of the Armed Police Battalion will be Rs. 40, Rs. 45 and Rs. 52 respectively. Drivers of staff cars and motor cycles riders will get a special pay of Rs. 75 a month.

— Sri Lanka Government decided to donate about half a million Indian rupees for cyclone relief in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

28 According to a news agency report, Indian Government has presented 68,000 metres of textiles and 36 cases of materials for weaving mills as aid to the Laotian people affected by serious floods in 1978.

— Deputy Prime minister Jagjivan Ram, left on a 12-day official visit to Bulgaria, Rumania and for a brief halt in Britain.

— Petroleum and Chemicals minister H.N. Bahuguna left for Moscow on a six-day visit to the Soviet Union to be followed by a three-day visit to Saudi Arabia, to discuss with the leaders of the two countries, matters relating to the development of oil industry and supply of crude oil and petroleum products to India.

— Ten people were killed and 12 injured, when a truck carrying marriage party skidded off the road and hit a tree near Bhiwani.

29 Child marriage (Amendment) Act recently passed by Tamil Nadu legislature, seeking to raise the legal age of marriage from 15 to 18 for girls and 18 to 21 for boys, received the assent of the President.

— Dr. T.M.A. Pai, a physician and a banker, died. Dr. Pai, 82, was founder of modern Manipal. He was the founder of Syndicate Bank and had been its managing director for over 36 years.

— India and Philippines signed an agreement to increase the two way trade and reduce trade to imbalance. The new agreement which provides the most favoured national treatment to each other in accordance with provisions of the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs. (GATT), superseded the previous one entered in 1968.

May	29	The Janata Party retained the Sidhi Parliamentary seat defeating the Congress (I) in the second Lok Sabha by-election in Madhya Pradesh. The Janata Party candidate, Ravi Nandan Singh secured 79, 963 votes against 62,630 polled by his nearest rival, Motilal Singh (Congress-I), giving him a lead of 17,333 votes.
	—	Union Government announced the liberalisation of pension rules for its employees. The new rules provide 50 per cent of average emoluments as pension for those getting upto Rs. 1000 as average pay on completion of 33 years of service. The maximum pension admissible under the new rates is Rs. 1500.
	—	Ishwardas Jalan, a former Minister of West Bengal, died. He was 85. A veteran Congressman, Mr. Jalan was the first speaker of the West Bengal assembly from 1947 to 1952.
	30	The Jammu and Kashmir Government announced appointment of a three member commission of inquiry headed by the former Chief Justice of India, Justice S.M. Sikri, to look into the question of regional imbalances between and within the three regions of the State. The other two members of the commission are Dr. Malcolm S. Adiseshiah and Dr. A.R. Kidwai.
	—	The Union Government issued a notification setting up two special courts to be presided over by sitting judges of the Delhi High Court to try emergency offences. Justice M.L. Jain will preside over one of the courts and Justice Mohinder Singh Joshi over the other.
	31	The Additional Secretary in the External Affairs Ministry, N.P. Jain has been appointed as new Ambassador to Nepal.
	—	Eight people were killed in different parts of Srinagar when cloudbursts struck in most of the hilly areas.
	—	Forty-two passengers died when a Rajasthan State Roadways Transport Corporation bus plunged into the Rajasthan Canal, 35 km from Hanumangarh.
	—	G.D. Mathur was appointed Managing Director of the Indian Airlines to replace M.C. Sarin. Mr. Mathur has been Deputy Managing Director (Commercial) in IA since August 1977.
	—	The Maruti Commission headed by Justice A.C. Gupta, a sitting judge of the Supreme Court submitted its report to the Union Home Ministry. The report in four volumes runs into 1,550 typed fullscape pages, including appendices. The Commission is understood to have come to the conclusion on the basis of solid evidence that Mrs. Indira Gandhi allowed the

office of the Prime Minister to be misused to promote the business interest of her son Sanjay Gandhi.

May 31 The Meghalaya Chief Minister B.B. Lyngdoh was expelled from the All-Party Hill Leaders Conference along with his seven followers for anti-party activities in associating themselves with the United Meghalaya Parliamentary Democratic Forum.

— Nine persons were killed and six injured when a truck carrying sugar bags met with an accident in Nasik district.

— Vishnuprasad N. Desai, former Mayor of Bombay and former Deputy Chairman of the Maharashtra Legislative Council, died. Mr. Desai, who was a freedom fighter, was connected with many social and cultural organisations in Bombay. He also took part in the Sarvodaya movement.

June 1 The Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh, Shanta Kumar said that constables in the State will get one month's additional pay every year. He added that 15 days special leave would be allowed for extra duty performed by them.

— India and Angola decided to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level. The Indian High Commissioner in Lusaka will represent India currently in Angola.

— India and Bulgaria signed a protocol in Sofia on defence cooperation. Deputy Prime Minister Jagjivan Ram signed the protocol for India.

— India and Sweden signed a development cooperation agreement providing Swedish grants of Rs. 110.69 crores to India for 1979-80 and 1980-81.

— India announced recognition of the new Uganda government headed by President Yusufu Lule.

— Mrs. Roma Dasgupta, former Vice-Principal of Indraprastha College for Women, died. She was 69.

— Revised rates of postal services, including envelopes, inland letters and telegrams, as announced by the Deputy Prime Minister Charan Singh were implemented.

— Tamil Nadu Government decided to permit its police personnel to form associations.

— Union Cabinet decided to wind up the Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, Simla, from September 1. The decision has been taken in view of its poor performance.

June 2 About 25 villagers were drowned when a country-boat carrying them capsized in the midstream in the Parvan, a river about 50 km from Jhalawar.

— At the Asian track and field meet at Tokyo, Gopal Saini and Santa Kumar of India won bronze medal in the 5,000 metre and 800 metre race respectively.

— Pranav Chatterjee, a member of the Rajya Sabha from Bihar died in Srinagar. He was 49.

3 Baroda was rocked by large scale violence and arson following the rise in milk prices announced by the Baroda diary. Army was called out to control the increasing violence in the city and 12 hour curfew was imposed.

— The Chairman, Railway Board K.S. Rajan and the member transport was removed without assigning any reason.

— Government appointed B.S. Das as Managing Director of Air India.

— India announced a voluntary contribution of $ 5 million exclusively to the Second Window of the Common Fund to be set up under UNCTAD'S integrated programme for commodities.

— Mrs. Sangam Laxmibai, 68, a veteran freedom fighter of Telengana region and a former member of Parliament, died. Mrs. Laxmibai was the Deputy Minister of Education in the first popular Ministry in the Hyderabad State, headed by B. Ramakrishna Rao. She was elected to the Parliament for three consecutive terms till she retired from politics in 1971. Earlier she was elected to the State Assembly, from Banswada in Nizamabad district.

— On the concluding day of the four day Asian track and field meet in Tokyo, Rattan Singh romped home with a gold medal for India when he won the 1500 metres race clocking three minutes and 49.8 seconds. Rita Sen bagged the Silver medal in the women's 400 metres with a timings of 54.99 seconds. Satbir Singh won a Silver medal in the 110 metres hurdles for men finishing in 14.53 seconds. Suresh Babu got Silver medal in the long jump. Indian quartet of Sumariwala, R. Gnanese-Kharan, O.L. Thomas and T. Harsan brought home the bronze medal in the 4x100 metres relay.

— Parliamentary Affairs and Labour Minister Ravindra Varma left for Geneva as the leader of the Indian delegation to participate in the 65th session of the International Labour Conference beginning on 6th June. Sushil Kumar Shinde, K.S. Raghupati are delegates from Government group and Navel

H. Tata is the delegate from the employers group and S. Venkat Ram from the workers group.

June 3 Rajmata Songiri of Rajgarh died. She was 69.

— Upendra Chandra Lekharu, a renowned educationist, scholar and an authority on Sankardeva, died. Mr. Lekharu who was the former President of the Ashom Sahitya Sabha, was the founder secretary of Sankardeva-temple at Brindaban, Uttar Pradesh. He was also the Dean of Sankardeva Chair in the Institute of Oriental philosophy at Barindaban.

4 An 11-member BSF expedition successfully scaled the Harmukh Peak in the Kashmir Himalayas. The team was led by deputy commandant J.K. Sharma.

— M. Menezes, Secretary, Department of Defence Production, took over as Chairman of the Railway Board.

— Markets in Kanpur, Varanasi, Gorakhpur, Aligarh, Bulandshahr and several other towns in Uttar Pradesh remained closed despite announcement of withdrawal of the ten-day old traders strike. Shops in most of the areas in Delhi also remained closed for the second time within a fortnight as part of the traders agitations for abolition of Sales Tax.

— The seven-day old agitation of the Gujarat policemen ended after a two-day protracted, high-level talks between the State Government and the representatives of the agitating policemen. The action committee of the Gujarat Police Karamchari Union after more than two hours of talks with the State Government, decided to withdraw its agitation.

5 Eight more Cabinet Ministers and 13 Ministers of State were sworn in Patna raising the strength of Bihar Ministry to 33.

— External Affairs Minister A.B. Vajpayee reached Colombo, to lead the Indian delegation to the meeting of the non-aligned Coordinating Bureau.

— K. Raghuramaiah, MP and former Union Minister, died. He was 67. Mr. Raghuramaiah was a member of the Central Council of Ministers for 20 long years except for a brief break and served under the three Prime Ministers, Jawaharlal Nehru, Lal Bahadur Shastri and Mrs. Indira Gandhi. He left the Congress in a huff after the emergency, when his long time political rival from his native Guntur, K. Brahmananda Reddy was chosen by Mrs. Gandhi as the Congress President. He subsequently had a brief fling with the Janata party but returned last March to Mrs. Gandhi's party. Nominated to the executive of the Andhra Pradesh only last week, he was expected to play a prominent part in the state's politics. Mr. Raghuramaiah was elected to the Lok Sabha in 1959. He was one of the few Ministers of Mrs. Gandhi's emergency cabinet to be returned to the Lok Sabha in March 1977 poll.

June 5 Khagen Roychowdhury, a former member of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly and a member of the CPI State Executive Committee, died. He was 62.

6 Bhagwat Sharan Abhoulia, a freedom fighter and former dean of Jabalpur University, died. He was 74. Mr. Abhoulia was founder of Commerce education in Mahakoshal region in Madhya Pradesh. He founded a branch of the Gobindram Seksaria Commerce at Wardha.

— The Chief Ministers Conference on policemen endorsed the Centre's decision to abolish the orderly system in the police force. Some differences were expressed, in the Conference, on the manner in which question of policemen's emoluments should be tackled.

— Dr. S.K. Sen, a noted surgeon, died. He was 69. Dr. Sen was among the first few Indians to become a fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons (FRCS). He was the founder director of the well known Sen's Nursing Home in Delhi, which he ran for well over 30 years.

— In a surprise move, four Ministers of Haryana resigned and 43 out of 75 Janata legislators communicated in writing their lack of confidence in Chief Minister Devi Lal.

7 The 25,447 ft. Kamet peak in Chamoli district of U.P. was climbed by an army expedition. The first party consisting of seven members led by its deputy leader, Captain R. Yadav, reached the summit at 1.45 p.m. The second party climbed the peak next day on 8th June and consisted of the leader Major Pratap Singh, Major R.K. Chaturvedi and Naik Bajrang Singh. The peak was climbed without oxygen.

— F. Laldailova, a luminary of Mizo literature, died of cancer. He was 54. Mr. Laldailova, who was in the Indian Air Force before independence, drifted to literature after World War II. The warrior-turned litterateur translated into Mizo language all the dramas of Shakespeare and was credited to be the only person in Mizoram who earned his living solely by writing. He had about 300 books published.

— Prof. Baldoon Dhingra, a prominent member of the Indian community in France, died. Prof. Dhingra who had been in France for more than 10 years, had been associated with UNESCO and taken a prominent part in educational and cultural activities.

June 7 Reported that the International Development Association, the World Banks' affiliate for concessionary lending will contribute $ 23 million for the $ 45 million UP Social Forestry Project.

— The second Indian Satellite named Bhaskara was launched into earth orbit from a Soviet condrome. The 444 kg satellite was carried atop a Soviet rocket at 4 p.m. (IST) injected into earth orbit a few minutes later.

8 The Congress (I) Parliamentary Board asked Devaraj Urs, to step down from the Presidentship of the Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (I). Devaraj Urs' contention that it is an elected body was rejected by the Board.

— A Pune expedition to the Nanda Devi Sanctuary scaled the 19,500 ft Devisthan III. The Eight members of the teams including the leader, Vijay Paranjype stood on the peak.

9 Bihar Government promulgated an Ordinance imposing total prohibition in the State with effect from Ist April.

— Dr. S. Ramanujam (76) well known agricultural scientist died in Bangalore. Dr. Ramanujam was the founder director of the Central Potato Research Institute, Patna and director, Central Rice Institute, Cuttack. He was also with the Indian Agricultural Research Institute for ten years. He was a fellow of the Indian National Science Academy.

— It was officially stated that the United Nations has sanctioned $ 7 lakh for development of mushroom cultivation in Himachal Pradesh.

— Officially stated that India has been re-elected to the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs in the Commission of the Economic and Social Council meeting held recently in New York.

— Rajasthan Government announced a number of major concessions to subordinate policemen, one of them being a month's salary in a year for their hard duty and working on holidays. Following this announcement the non-gazetted police employees called off their agitation.

10 A.J.A. Tayeb, Chairman of the Pay Commission, West Bengal, died. He was 64. Mr. Tayeb had joined the Bengal Senior Education Service before partition. He taught English in many colleges and also became Chairman of the West Bengal Public Service Commission.

— A new double railway line between Narela and Sonepat was opened by the Northern Railways.

June 10 Prime Minister Morarji Desai accompanied by Foreign Minister A.B. Vajpayee, Foreign Secretary Jagat Mehta and Senior Officials of External Affairs arrived in Tashkent on the first leg of his 12-day tour of Soviet Union, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia. Immediately he went into talks with the Uzbek leadership. On the 11th June Mr. Desai reached Moscow, where Mr. Brezhnev broke the protocol and came personally to receive Mr. Desai at the airport, Mr. Desai and Mr. Brezhnev had first round of talks lasting two hours. Several major international and bilateral issues, including India Soviet nuclear cooperation, were discussed. Mr. Brezhnev suggested that India and the Soviet Union carry out a joint space flight and an Indian astronaught be put on board a Soviet spaceship.

— Rajendra Pandey, Secretary of the Unnao district Janata Yuva Morcha was shot dead.

11 Dev Raj Anand, a veteran Congress (I) leader and former Education Minister of Haryana died at Solan. He was 74.

— Dr. Z.A. Ahmed and Indradip Sinha were re-elected President and General Secretary of the All-India Kisan Sabha, at a four day 22nd All-India Kisan Sabha Conference held at Vijaywada. The All-India Kisan Sabha is affiliated to the Communist Party of India.

— The Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) approved new project for India amountting to $ 88.6 million aimed at promoting technological development.

— Seven persons were killed as a devastating dust-storm accompanied by squalls with a velocity of 170 km an hour hit Chandigarh and the neighbouring areas in Punjab and Haryana.

— S.S. Puri, till now Chief Secretary to the Punjab Government has been appointed Secretary (Planning) to the Union Government.

— Two persons were killed and four injured when four bogies of the Dhubri Passenger train were derailed between New Bongaigaon and Dantal on the metre gauge section of the North East Frontier Railways.

12 The Barman Commission which inquired into alleged cases of nepotism, favouritism and abuse of power indulged in by the Tripura (Congress) Government headed by S.M. Sengupta, has indicted the former Chief Minister and top Government officials for misuse of power and other acts of Omission and Commissions.

June 12 External Affairs Minister A.B. Vajpayee and Vice-Chairman of the Soviet Council of Ministers Ivan Arkhipov signed a protocol for the construction of a three million ton capacity steel plant at Visakhapatnam. Provision has been made for additional Soviet Credits for the purchase of equipment and material should it become necessary after obtaining these domestically from India. A significant departure from the past agreement in the steel field, the entire consultancy work for whole project would be handled by an Indian firm for the first time. On 13th June Russia announced its agreement to give India additional heavy water for the Rajasthan atomic plant and also consideration about supplying three million tonnes of crude oil annually.

— Janata Party Disciplinary Action Committee removed former Union Health Minister Raj Narain from the Party's national executive for a period of one year.

— Nine persons were drowned in the Yamuna when a country boat carrying 17 pilgrims capsized, 20 km from Allahabad.

— Orissa Government announced a package of facilities and concessions to non-gazetted policemen, involving an additional expenditure of Rs. 2 crore a year. About 27,000 policemen of various ranks will get about Rs. 34 to 41 more each month.

— Prof. Satish Dhawan, Secretary in the Department of Space returned from the Soviet Union after attending the launching of Bhaskara-I, told newsmen that an agreement has been signed with the Soviet Union according to which another Indian satellite in the Bhaskara series would be placed in orbit around the earth next year with the help of Soviet launch vehicle.

— S.M. Narayanan, prominent trade Union leader and assistant secretary of the Tamil Nadu Unit of the INTUC, died at Tiruchirapalli. He was 53.

— Tamil film producer R. Venu Chettiar died. He was 50. Mr. Chettiar, producer of the award winning film "Mullum Malarum" had produced 10 films. He had started his career as a still photographer.

13 Announced that K. Shankar Pillai, popularly known as Shankar, executive trust of the Children's Book Trust, has been awarded a citation and pin by the Hamilton Branch of the United Nations Association.

— The Central Disciplinary Committee of the Janata Party issued show-cause notices to Devi Lal, Chief Minister of Haryana and Mrs. Chandravati, M.P. and president of the Haryana Janata

Party, for their alleged anti-party role during the recent Narnaul Assembly byelection in Haryana. They have been asked to send in their explanations within 15 days.

June 13 Four persons of a marriage party were killed and three sustained serious injuries, when a truck in which they were returning home met with an accident near Bindki near Fatehpur.

— H.R. Arakeri, a renowned agricultural scientist and former Vice-Chancellor of University Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore, was appointed Chairman of the Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board.

— Shipad Ramchandra Tikekar, a journalist and a historian died. Mr. Tikekar, 78, was known as a critic. He also earned a name for investigative reporting. He wrote books on many subjects, including the revolt in Burma and Afghanistan.

14 Anant Ram Jaiswal (of erstwhile BLD) announced his resignation from the seven-man Central Disciplinary Committee of the Janata Party as a protest against the removal of Raj Narain from the National Executive.

— Dr. P.K. Das, director general of the meteorological department has been elected a member of the executive committee of the World Meteororologic Organisation (WMO). Dr. Das led the Indian delegation to the eight World Meteorological Congress in Geneva last year.

— An Indian Parliamentary delegation led by the Lok Sabha Speaker, K.S. Hegde arrived in Sofia at the invitation of the National Assembly of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

— Madhya Pradesh Government announced in Bhopal its decision to give ad hoc relief to all policemen below the rank of inspector which would cost the exchequer Rs. 4 crores. The benefits consits of an extra Rs. 50 for constables, Rs. 60 for head constables and Rs. 70 for Assistant Sub-Inspector and Sub-Inspectors.

— Prime Minister Morarji Desai flew into Warsaw from Leningrad on a three-day visit to Poland for bilateral talks with Polish leaders on measures to further increase the Indo-Polish commerce and trade. Shortly after his arrival Mr. Desai went into talks with Edward Gierek, Polish Communist Party Chief. On 15th June Morarji Desai had second round of talks with Edward Gierek in which Poland's stand regarding its agreement to consider proposals to help India develop its coal mines was conveyed. On 16 June it was stated in an aide memoire to Foreign Minister A.B. Vajpayee that Poland has agreed to revise its maps of South Asia so that India's boundary with

Tibet is in conformity with the alignments shown in Indian maps.

June 14 Prof. M. Lodha of Calcutta University has been appointed Vice-Chancellor of Jodhpur University.

15 The Centre announced increased allowances and compensatory leaves, which is encashable, to Delhi policemen.

— Disaster struck the Free Press group of newspapers in Bombay, when a big fire badly damaged vital machines and destroyed most of the paper rolls.

— In Sikkim, Minister for Tourism, R.C. Poudiyal was "removed" from the Ministry by a notification issued by the Governor of Sikkim under the power vested in him under Article 184 (1) of the Constitution.

— The Karnataka Pradesh Congress (I) Committee, headed by Devaraj Urs, was dissolved by the Working Committee of the Party, which appointed an 11-member ad-hoc body in its place. On 16th June Congress (I) in Karnataka split into two with the Chief Minister Devaraj Urs, sacking the newly appointed ad hoc PCC (I) Chief S. Bangarappa and R. Gundu Rao from their Cabinet posts. On 17th June Devaraj Urs demonstrated his strength when 142 of the 156 of the Congress (I) legislators unanimously affirmed their faith in him. An emergency meeting of the Congress (I) Legislature Party decided not to recognise the newly constituted KPCC (I) and ad hoc body by the working Committee. On 18th June Mr. Urs was served with a show-cause notice for defying the action of the Congress (I) Working Committee on the KPCC (I) issue. The Party has sought his reply within four days. On 21st June in his reply to the show cause notice despatched to AICC (I) President, Indira Gandhi, Devraj Urs described the dissolution of the KPCC (I) as unprecedented, arbitrary and unwarranted as there was no question of indiscipline.

— Minister of Shipping and Transport Chand Ram arrived in Berlin on an official visit to the German Democratic republic.

— The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting announced the appointment of five eminent persons as producers (emeritus) for All India Radio and Television. They are Mrs. M.S. Subbalakshmi (Karnataka Vocalist), Bhavani Prasad Mishra (Hindi poet), Upendra Nath Ashk, (Hindi novelist), Adya Rangacharya (Kannada Playwright and a Hindi Novelist and critic) and Hanel Manuel (exponent of Western Music).

— The pound Sterling became costlier against the rupee by 20 paise. The new rate for buying a pound is Rs. 17.05 (Rs. 16.85) and for selling Rs. 17.15 (Rs. 16.90) giving a middle rate of Rs. 17.10 (Rs. 16.90).

June 15 Sikander Bakht, Union Minister of Works and Housing, left for London enroute to Libya, Syria and Kuwait.

— Ten persons were killed on the spot when a bus belonging to the Andhra Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation was involved in a collision with a lorry at Guntur.

16 About 35 persons were injured and major damage was caused to property when a tornado struck Wankaner township, about 40 km from Rajkot and its surrounding areas. The tornado swept across the town for about five minutes, uprotoing electric poles, trees and blowing off the rooftops of many houses. Electric Supply and telecommunication links were disrupted.

— From Warsaw Prime Minister Morarji Desai along with A.B. Vajpayee and other reached Prague, where he had meeting with the Czechoslovakia President Gustav Husak. On 17th June Prime Minister Desai had hour-long meeting with his Czech counterpart Lubomir Strougal on how bilateral economic relations should be further strengthened. On June 18 a joint communique was issued in Prague at the end of Prime Minister Morarji Desai's three-day visit reaffirming that the talks between Prime Minister Morarji Desai and President Gustav Husak would further strengthen bilateral relations and open new vistas for closer and more fruitful cooperation.

17 Five people died on the spot when a bomb exploded at Kutti-chakanwala village, near Moradabad.

— Vice-President B.D. Jatti presented the first Swami Haridas award to Ustad Aminuddin Dagar for his contribution to the Dhrupad style of music and the first Mian Tansen award to Dr. N.P. Seshadri for popularizing the cultural heritage of India.

18 Gunwantbhai Kothari, editor of Prabhat daily, died. He was 48.

— K. Murugaiyan of the CPI was declared elected to the Lok Sabha from the Nagapattinam (SC) constituency, while the Thanjavur seat was won by the Congress (I) when S. Singaravadivelu defeated Anbil Dharmalingam (DMK) by 92,848 votes.

— Mrs. Krishna Kumari Sinha, sister-in-law of Shri Jayaprakash Narayan, died. She was 67.

June 18 Prime Minister Morarji Desai arrived in Belgrade to a very warm welcome on a three-day visit to discuss with Yugoslav leaders the strategy to counter moves threatening to undermine unity of the non-aligned movement. Immediately after his arrival Mr. Desai had a plenary session with Yugoslavia Prime Minister Veselin Djuranovic on crucial matters concerning the non-aligned and important bilateral matters. On 20th June Mr. Desai arrived in Brioni and soon after his arrival he had 65 minutes meeting with Yugoslav President Tito. After 65 minutes meeting Mr. Desai and President Tito were joined by their principal aides.

— Three persons were killed and 20 injured 10 of them seriously, when a bus carrying a marriage party from Unnao to Rae Bareli was involved in collision with a roadways bus on the Kanpur-Lucknow highway near Unnao.

19 The Central Government issued a Presidential notification enforcing the provisions of the constitution (44th Amendment) Act, 1978 in three stages. Among the provisions which will come into force with immediate effect is one relating to the right of property. This right will no longer be a fundamental right but one regulated by the ordinary law. Provisions relating to the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court and the High Courts will come into force from Ist August. Provisions such as those under Article 22, which deal with protection against arrest and detention in certain cases will be enforced at a date to be notified later.

— Narayandas Rungta, industrialist and philanthropist, 74, died. Tripura Government announced a number of additional benefits to police personnel which include increased ration allowance for non-gazetted police employees.

21 About 40 members of the Bharatiya Lok Dal faction of the Janata Party met in New Delhi to devise ways to counter the "systematic threats to drive them out of important positions in the Janata Party and the State Governments." They authorised the Deputy Prime Minister Charan Singh to take appropriate decision keeping in view the national interests.

— The four-day police agitation in Jammu and Kashmir was withdrawn, following an assurance by the Government that the demands of the constabulary would be given a sympathetic consideration.

— Food and Agricultural Organisation has decided to issue an "Agricola" medal bearing the portrait of Jayaprakash Narayan in recognition of his services in the field of rural development. This medal is being issued on the occasion of the World conference on agrarian reform and rural development scheduled to be held in Rome in July. The medal which is in the form of coin is being issued in gold and silver and the proceeds will be utilised for sponsoring projects for the advancement of rural women.

June 21 Four engine crew were killed and nine other railwaymen injured when a goods train collided with relief train at Mirchanguri station on the Chopan-Kanti single section of Eastern railway's Dhanbad division. The double engine train carrying coal was bound for Obra thermal Power Station.

— The Governments of India and Japan exchanged notes concerning the Japanese project loan to India amounting to Rs. 74 crores (20 billion yen) for the Surat fertiliser project in Gujarat. The loan will be repayable in 30 years with a grace period of ten years and the rate of interest will be 3%.

— Meharban Singh Dhupia, a well known social figure in the Capital died of a heart attack. He was honorary general secretary of the Chelmsford Club. He was also Secretary of the International Punjab Society, a cultural organisation with branches all over the world.

— The Speaker of the Rajasthan Assembly Laxman Singh resigned in protest against "non-cooperation" from the Government. He alleged at a Press Conference that the Chief Minister had been consistently showing disrespect to the State Assembly and behaving with him in a casual manner.

22 In a swift, dramatic move, well over 1,000 jawans of the Central Reserve Police Force's Jharodo Kalan group centre, 30 km from Delhi, went on an indefinite strike—the first full scale strike in any CRP unit since the raising of this paramilitary force in 1939. On 25th June Army took over the Central Reserve Police Force group after some brief resistance by the striking CRPF jawans in which the Army and the strikers exchanged fire. Three persons were killed in the firing.

— Lakshmidhar Misra took over as the New Central Provident Fund Commissioner. He was formerly the Labour Commissioner in Orissa.

— The pound sterling became costlier in terms of the rupee by 25 paise. This was the second "devaluation" of the rupee within a week. The Reserve Bank of India revised the rates for the purchase and sale of pound sterling at Rs. 17.30 and Rs. 17.40 respectively giving the middle rate of Rs. 17.35 per pound.

23 Commerce Minister Mohan Dharia and Czechoslovak Foreign Trade Minister Andrej Barook signed a trade protocol at Prague envisaging a target of doubling the trade flow between

the two countries during 1981-85 as compared to the level reached by 1980. The protocol was signed at the conclusion of the eighth meeting of the Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Committee.

June 23 A five-man team of Soviet experts led by Prof. Yeremenko arrived in New Delhi to discuss with ONGC scientists the geological exploration of Hydrocarbons in some select areas of the sedimentary basin of the country.

— Haryana Chief Minister Devi Lal said he has resigned as leader of the Haryana Janata Legislature Party. Earlier Devi Lal was asked by the Janata Party Parliamentary Board to seek a vote of confidence on 27th June.

— P.S. Subramaniam, Manager, Press Trust of India, Hyderabad, died. He was 57.

— Raj Narain announced his resignation from the Janata Party accusing it of being dominated by "communalism of RSS, authoritarianism of Morarji Desai and conspiratorial politics and inaction of Chandra Shekhar". He said he was going to build a "real Janata Party of our dreams".

— Thirteen people were killed and 20 seriously injured when a local bus rolled down a khud in the Cantonment area in Dehra Dun.

24 Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Banarsi Das announced a substantial raise in the pay scales of police constables, head constables and assistant sub-inspectors with immediate effect. These categories will get increase in their monthly pay between Rs. 50 to Rs. 108. The amount of group insurance scheme for non-gazetted personnel has been raised from Rs. 12,000 to Rs. 25,000 and for gazetted personnel to Rs. 50,000. One month's additional salary will also be given to non-gazetted inspectors, sub-inspectors and assistant sub-inspectors (working in offices) who do not observe Sundays and other gazetted holidays.

— The Congress (I) Working Committee expelled Devaraj Urs from the Party for six years and asked him to resign his position as a member of the Karnataka Assembly which he obtained on the Congress (I) ticket. The CWC (I) found Mr. Urs "guilty of the worst type of anti-party activity indiscipline and of the betrayal of the faith of the party reposed in him.

— P.K. Kunju, a veteran Socialist leader and a Minister of the former State of Travancore-Cochin and later of Kerala, died. He was 73.

— Noted Footballer and olympian P.B.A. Saleh died. He was 54. Saleh who hailed from Kerala joined the East Bengal Club (Calcutta) in 1945 and played there till 1953. He represented India in the Helsinki Olympics in 1952. He toured USSR with East Bengal Club in 1953.

June 25 The border between Nadia district in West Bengal and Bangladesh was virtually sealed to prevent movement of people across the border. The step followed the complaint by Bangladesh that about 25,000 people had migrated to Kushtia district from riot-torn Nadia.

— The disciplinary committee of the Congress (I) sent a show-cause notice to N.K. Tirpude, former President of Maharashtra unit of party asking him to explain why disciplinary action should not be taken against him for indulging in anti-party activities and making public statements against the decision of the party high command. He was the first to support Devraj Urs on the inner-party discipline. On June 30, 25 Maharashtra Congress (I) Party MLAs declared their unqualified support to N. Tirpude in his confrontation with Indira Gandhi on the issue of Sanjay Gandhi.

— An eight-member Indian Parliamentary delegation led by K.S. Hedge, Speaker of the Lok Sabha arrived in Moscow on a seven-day visit to USSR.

— A fresh Indo-Swedish textile agreement for the export of certain textiles in items from India in the next 18 months was initialled.

— An indefinite curfew was clamped on the Bokaro industrial complex following a three and half hour exchange of fire between a contingent of the Army and jawans of the Central Industrial Security Force. 19 CISF men and two Army jawans including a major were killed in the encounter. After the encounter the Army took possession of the armoury and all CSIF men surrendered. More than 700 of them were taken into custody. The encounter took place when the Army moved into the area to disarm the CISF men agitating for the last 15 days to press for the acceptance of their demands and to take possession of the armoury.

— Jagdambi Prasad Yadav, Union Minister of State for Industry left on a 10-day tour of Japan, the Philippines and South Korea.

— The Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (I) with the Chief Minister, Devraj Urs, as President, which was dissolved by the Congress (I) Working Committee 10 days ago, declared itself as the Karnataka Congress. The decision adopted unanimously at a meeting of the general body came close on the decision of the CWC (I) to expel Mr. Urs from the party for six years.

— M.D. alias Annasaheb Magar, a Congress member of the Lok Sabha from the Khed constituency in Pune district, died. A bechelor, he was 60.

June 25 More than 60 out of 80 passengers travelling a Bhopal State bus were drowned when the bus plunged into a river near Bhikangaon, West Nimar district.

— M.R. Ramachandran, judicial member of the Central Board of Revenue, died. He was 54.

— Rajabhan Dangare, a veteran freedom fighter and Congress worker, died at Nagpur.

— Ram Prasad Pokhriyal, a revolutionary died. Mr. Pokhriyal, 60, was for many years DGC of Pauri Garhwal. He had served on several political and social organisations.

26 Devaraj Urs was unanimously elected leader of the Karnataka Congress Legislature Party.

— Eight persons were killed and seventeen other injured when a Uttar Pradesh state road transport corporation bus collided with a tanker on the Gola-Lakhimpur road in Lakhimpur Kheri district.

— India and Algeria signed a technical and scientific cooperation agreement in Algiers.

27 About 60 passengers lost their lives when an overloaded bus of a private company plunged into the Bikaner canal, 10 miles from Abohar.

— Arvind Kilachand, noted Industrialist, and a former President of the Indian Merchants Chamber, died in Dusseldorf. He was 55.

— Bhajan Lal, who belongs to former CFD in Janata was unanimously elected leader of the Haryana Janata Legislature Party at its meeting held in New Delhi. Only 50 legislators attended the meeting with most of the outgoing Chief Minister, Devi Lal's supporters choosing to stay away. Bhajan Lal, who represents the Adampur (Hissar) constituency in the State Assembly, was a member of Devi Lal's Cabinet and had resigned to join the dissidents. On 28th June an eight-member new Janata Ministry of Haryana, headed by Bhajan Lal, was sworn-in by the Governor.

— K.M. Mathew, Chief Editor of Malayala Manorama was elected Chairman of the Press Trust of India.

— Pondicherry administration announced enhanced casual and compensatory leave and certain allowances for policemen in the

Union Territory involving an annual expenditure of about Rs. 10 lakhs.

June 27 Prof. A. Rahman, Chief (Planning) and head of the Centre for Study of Science, Technology and Development in the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, has been elected President of the International Council for Science Policy Studies (ICSPS) at its recent conference at Oslo.

— Raj Nath Singh, Member of the U.P. Legislative council has been appointed Vice-Chancellor of Udaipur University.

— Rev. Liankhaia, a noted scholar and author of Mizoram, died. He was 97. Rev. Liankhaia was a recipient of the academy of letters of the Mizoram Government, for his contribution to Mizo literature.

28 Five persons were drowned and nine persons were missing when an overcrowded mini-bus, carrying mostly school children, skidded into a flooded riverlet at Dharampur near Margo town in Panaji.

— Hemraj Ladhi, a Janta Party MLA from Uttar Pradesh was shot dead near the Unnao bus station.

— India and West Germany signed an agreement at New Delhi under which India will get commodity loan of Rs. 31.25 crores for the year 1979-80.

— Joachim Alva, 73, died. He was a member of Parliament from 1952 to 1974. Mrs. Margaret Alva, a Congress (I) MP, is his daughter-in-law.

— Sikkim Government announced several new benefits and concessions to the police. The benefits include one month's extra pay per year for doing duties on Sunday and gazetted holidays, an ex-gratia payment of Rs. 20,000 to the next to kin in the event of death and Rs. 10,000 in case of permanent injury.

29 The pension of officers and men of the defence forces was raised under the Defence Ministry's new liberalized pension scheme giving benefits in the range of Rs. 26 to Rs. 300. The new rates of pension are applicable to those personnel who have retired on or after March 31, 1979.

— Tweleve persons were killed on the spot and 12 other injured, when a Maharashtra State road transport bus on contract to a marriage party plunged into Mul river near Sindewadi, about 48 km from Chandrapur.

June 30 Foreign Minister A.B. Vajpayee returned to New Delhi from a 2-day visit to Algeria and a day's stop-over in France.

— India and the United States signed two agreements for development assistance to India totalling Rs. 55 crores. The major agreement is for a loan of Rs. 47 crores for accelerating the pace of electrification in rural areas. The second agreement for Rs. 8 crores is an amendment to last year's loan agreement of 28 million dollars to finance the import of insecticides to control resurgence of malaria.

— R.D. Singh, IPS took over as Director, CBI, succeeding John Lobo, who has retired.

— The Union Government promulgated the Paper Control Order, 1979, thereby controlling the price and distribution of white printing paper.

— V. Tulsiram, member of Lok Sabha from Peddapalli constituency, resigned from the Congress (I) and joined Congress headed by Swaran Singh.

July 1 The Banarsi Das Ministry in Uttar Pradesh was expanded to include 16 Ministers of State, raising its strength to 43. Half of the 16 sworn-in were completely new faces, while the rest held the same office in Yadav Ministry.

— Congress (I) in Maharashtra split on the issue of Sanjay Gandhi's interference in Party affairs. The leader of the party's legislature group, Nasikrao Tirpude resigned from him post taking into consideration the strong backing he has received from 25 MLAs.

— The four new districts (three carved out of the Kashmir valley and one out of Ladakh) were Officially inaugurated. The districts are: Pulwama, Kupwara, Badgam and Kargil.

— The Indian Labour Party recently formed by R.D. Bhandari, at its executive meeting at Bombay decided to merge with the Congress (I).

— Mizoram Government announced a six point programme "to better the lot" of the Union Territory's policemen. The policemen would be entitled 30 days compensatory leave or one month's pay in cash in lieu of lost gazetted and other public holidays.

— Prime Minister Morarji Desai dedicated to the nation a 200 MW unit at the Satpura power house in Sarni, Betal district.

2 Six people were killed and over 140 injured in two road accidents on Bareilly-Delhi national highway.

July 2 British Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary Lord Carrington arrived in New Delhi on a two-day visit. Lord Carrington and the Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai discussed the Zimbabwe-Rhodesia question as well as energy crisis and the plight of refugees from Vietnam. Later, during his talks with the External Affairs Minister, A.B. Vajpayee Lord Carrington spoke of his "horrible experience" about the condition of the Vietnamese refugees he had seen in Hong-Kong and the necessity and urgency of finding a solution to the problem.

— Charan Singh announced the "final parting of ways" between him and Raj Narain who resigned from the Janata Party recently. The Deputy Prime Minister took exception to the reported statement by Raj Narain in a fortnightly that he had given him the idea of resigning from the Janata Party.

— Justice M.N. Venkatachaliah of the Karnataka High Court dismissed an election petition (by two unsuccessful candidates Deshbandhu Hanumiah and Khan Hyder Ali Khan) challenging the election of Indira Gandhi to the Lok Sabha from the Chikmagalur constituency for non-prosecution of petition by the petitioners.

— Mizo National Front insurgents made daring attacks with automatic weapons at the transmission centre of the All India Radio, Aizawl and the Mizoram police complex. On July 3, indefinite curfew was imposed. Official sources said that a large number of Chinese arms were seized from MNF hideouts.

— The Railway Ministry appointed new General Managers of the Northern Railway and South Central Railway. The new General Manager of the Northern Railway is R.K. Natesan and N.N. Sharma will be the General Manager of the South Central Railway.

— The Rupee was devalued in terms of the pound sterling by 1.4% owing to the revision by the Reserve Bank of its rates for purchase and sale of the pound sterling for spot delivery. The pound sterling has become costlier by 20 paise.

— Six persons were killed and 23 injured when a UP roadways bus collided with a truck on the Lucknow-Barabanki road.

3 Nineteen persons were killed and 86 injured when two long route buses collided near Sajawalpur on national highway number 28, about 17 km from Muzaffarpur.

— Sushital Banerji (54) Defence Secretary, died. A "topper" in the first batch to qualify for the Indian Administrative Service in 1948, Mr. Banerji had a brilliant academic background and belonged to a family settled in Jhansi (Madhya Pradesh) for three generations. He was the Deputy Commissioner for Delhi in the early 1960s and was credited with having handled the staff strike tactfully. He was a Joint Secretary in the Prime Minister's Secretariat from 1969 to 72, then Minister for economic affairs at the Indian Embassy in Washington. Subsequently he was Chief Secretary, Jammu and Kashmir Government and then Defence Production Secretary.

July 3 Swedish Labour Minister, Rolf Wirten, arrived in New Delhi on a six-day visit to India.

— The UN Secretary General appointed M. Senthanam of the Indian Space Research Organisation on the group of Government experts concerned with Satellite monitoring of disarmament agreement.

— The Union Cabinet decided to raise the support price of groundnut from the present Rs. 175 to Rs. 190 per quintal for the 1979-80 season.

4 The convention of Congressmen, called by Dev Raj Urs unanimously resolved to become a united Congress Party under the banner of the Indian National Congress. The party would be dedicated to the "Ideals of Democracy, secularism, socialism, and national integrity committed to democratic functioning at all levels and opposition to authoritarianism. The convention was held at Lal Bagh Glass House in Bangalore.

--- Eight people were killed and 60 seriously injured in two accidents-one near Murthal and the other 5 km from Panipat on the grand trunk road.

— The Reserve Bank of India (Maintenance of Service) Ordinance 1979 promulgated by the President empowered the Government to prohibit strikes "or any other conduct which is likely to result in cessation or substantial retardation of work" in the Reserve Bank. The Ordinance also provides for penalty (Including imprisonment or fine or both) for infringement of such a Government order.

— Union Government notified that compulsory deposits amounting to Rs. 345 crore and falling due for repayment on 6th July was being withheld for one year. A Presidential Ordinance said this was being done in the interest of overall stability of the country's economy which warranted control on the rate of monetary expansion, in the context of significant increases in prices in the last few months.

July 4 A US dollar became cheaper by ten paise following revision by the Reserve Bank of the rates for buying and selling of US dollar currency notes by banks and money changers from tourists and the public.

6 British pound sterling became dearer by 20 paise for the second time in four days following a 1.13 per cent depreciation in the value of the Indian rupee in relation to the UK currency.

— The Cuban Vice-President Dr. Carlos Rafael Rodriguez arrived in New Delhi on a six-day official visit to India. He delivered a letter from the Cuban President Fidel Castro to the Prime Minister Morarji Desai promising that nothing would be done at the Havana Summit to deviate from the essential principals of non-alignment.

— Eighteen people were killed and 27 injured in a collision between two trucks near Bamrauli, 7 km from Allahabad.

— Raj Kapoor's "Satyam, Shivam, Sundram" has won the award for the most original love story musical in the 25th Asian Film Festival held in Singapore.

7 Dr. Harish Chand, an Honorary Homoeopathic Physician to the President of India, was elected President of the International Homoeopathic Medical League.

— The Election Commission appointed S.S. Bhalerao, Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha as Returning Officer for the Vice-Presidential election to be held on August 25.

— Four women labourers were killed and another was seriously injured when a stone mine, where they were working caved in at Toda Bhim in Sawai Madhopur district.

— India alongwith Cyprus, Japan and Lebanon was chosen to represent the Asian group of countries on a United Nations Working group formed to suggest improvements in world information activities.

— India and Australia signed a memorandum on an Indo-Australian apple grading and storage project at Sopare in Jammu and Kashmir. The total commitments of the Governments of India and Australia for this project will be Rs. 30 lakhs and $ 290,000 respectively, spread over a period of two years.

— Jayaprakash Narayan returned to Patna after spending about four months in Bombay for treatment and convalscence.

July 7 Ramesh Krishnan emulated his father Ramanathan, former Wimbledon junior champion when he won the boys singles' title in straight sets beating David Siegler of U.S. 6-1, 6-2.

— Two-day conference of the Socialist Party opened in New Delhi on a invitation by Industry Minister, George Fernandes. The members sharply criticised the Union Government and the Janata Party for their failure to fulfil the election promises made in 1977.

8 AICC Ceneral Secretary K.C. Pant announced that Amrit Nahata, MP has resigned from the Janata Party and joined the Indian National Congress.

— The Executive Committee of the All India Mayors Council at its meeting at Cochin demanded the holding of elections within six months in all cities where corporation Councils stand superseded. The Committee also called for wholesale revision of the law to give city administration full autonomy and full executive and financial powers. The committee in its resolutions condemned the tendency on the part of the State Governments to supersede the councils on flimsy grounds.

— The Government announced various decisions to improve the working condition of personnel of the Border Secruity Force (BSF) and the Indo-Tibetan Border Force.

— Officially announced that Air Commodore S. Raghavendran has been promoted to the rank of Air Vice Marshal and appointed Assistant Chief of Air Staff (Personnel) at the Air Headquarter.

— P.M. Joseph, a prominent leader of the Kerala Congress led Kerala Trade Union Congress (KTUC) was killed and five others were injured in a clash between KTUC and CITU workers at Peechi near Trichur.

— Rebel Mizo leader Laldenga, who is suspected to have been guiding the current insurgency in Mizoram, was taken into custody from his South Delhi residence. He is understood to have been charged with sedition. Laldenga, president of the Mizo National Front leads an extremist faction of the organisation which operates largely underground with arms obtained clandestinely. Hours ahead of Laldenga's arrest the Government gazetted a notification banning the Mizo National Front and its allied organisations under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. The recourse to violence and murder taken by the MNF following its quit notice to all non-Mizos was given by the notification as the ground for Government's action.

July 9 Air Vice-Marshal Dotiwalla took over command of the National Defence Academy at Kadakvasala near Pune.

— The entire Opposition in both Houses of Parliament walked out in protest against the promulgation of two recent Ordinances, one prohibiting strikes and go-slow in the Reserve Bank and the other postponing repayment of Compulsory Deposit Account instalment.

— India and Cuba signed a trade agreement for development and promoting economic and commercial relations between the two countries. Apart from setting up a joint Cuba-India committee, the agreement provides for an indicative list of export products of Cuba and India.

— Monsoon session of the Parliament began in New Delhi.

— Samar Roy Chowdhury, a renowned footballer of the 40's died.

— The Security Forces have rounded up 121 Mizoram National Front (MNF) suspects from different parts of the Union Territory. Among those arrested was "Lieutenant-Colonel" Kawluela who was responsible for taking the first batch of underground for guerilla training to China in 1966.

— Thirteen members resigned from Janata Parliamentary Party, 10 of them in support of Raj Narain, reducing the ruling party's strength in the Lok Sabha from 302 to 289. The House has a total effective strength of 539 excluding five vacancies. Those who quited the party in support of Raj Narain were. Chandra Shekhar Singh, Manoharlal Sainri Maniram Bagri, M.N. Lather, Brij Bhushan Tiwari, Sushil Dhara, Ram Dhari Shastri, Chaudhari Hari Ram, Hargovind Verma and Anantram Jaiswal, Abdul Lateef, Andhra MP who had last year defected from the Congress to join JPP also left to join the Congress. Amrit Nahata from Rajasthan had announced his resignation two days earlier. Mr. Nahata also joined the Congress. Raj Narain named his new group as the "Janata Party (S)"—S for Secular.

— USSR signed a contract with ten export houses in Bombay for buying finished cotton goods worth Rs. 19 crores.

10 Agriculture and Irrigation Minister S.S Barnala left for Rome to attend a world conference on agrarian reform and rural development.

— The Janata Party's strength was reduced from 302 to 275 in a House of 539 (excluding five vacancies) raising the total of those who have left the Party in the last two days to 27.

July 10 Jawan Mal Purohit, former member of the All-India Congress Committee died at Jodhpur. He was 70

— P.C. Kuttykrishnan, popularly known as "Uroob", noted Malayalam writer and editor of the Malayala Manorama Weekly, died.

— Y.B. Chavan, leader of the Congress Parliamentary Party, was recognised as leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha. An announcement to this effect was made by Speaker K.S. Hedge. He said that in view of the changed circumstances (of the Congress becoming the largest Opposition party) a demand had been made for a change in the leader of opposition.

11 Ashok Sen Chib, India's Ambassador in Cairo, has been appointed ambassador to Yugoslavia in succession to Natrajan Krishnan.

— Eight people were killed and 33 injured in a bus accident in the interior of Chakrata tehsil in Dehra Dun district.

— Janata Party was reduced to minority when the total desertions reached the figure of 49 including two who have joined the Congress during the last three days. This has reduced the Janata strength from 302 to 253 in a House of 539 (excluding five vacancies to be filled). Those who resigned included S.N. Mishra, former deputy leader of the Janata Parliamentary Party and R.K. Amin former Party treasurer.

— Lok Sabha commenced a four-day debate on the no-confidence motion against 28-month old Janata Government. Initiating the motion, the leader of the opposition Y.B. Chavan said that he had moved the motion against the Government because it had forfeited the confidence of all sections of the community.

— Maqbool Hasan, Khan, former Minister of State in Ram Naresh Yadav's Ministry (UP) died.

— Raj Narain was elected leader of the breakaway Janata group in the Lok Sabha at a meeting in New Delhi. R.L. Kureel and Sushil Dhara were elected the deputy leader and chief whip of the group respectively. The group called itself Janata (S).

— The workers of the Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Undertaking started a lightning strike they were demanding pay hike and better working conditions. Army technicians were called in to restore the water supply to the capital. The Labour Commissioner of Delhi Administration declared the strike as illegal. Due to the water crisis both the Houses of Parliament were forced to adjourn, on July 13, with members protesting against the water crisis.

July 12 The army was called in to man the Capital's water-works at dawn as a strike by nearly 10,000 employees of the Delhi Water Supply Undertaking plunged the Capital into the worst water crisis in its history.

— N.K. Tirpude and 30 other legislators of Maharashtra walked out of the Congress (I) Legislature Party to form a new organisation called the Maharashtra Prajatantra Congress Legislature Party.

— Strength of Janata Party was reduced to 246 in the 534-member Lok Sabha with the resignation of 7 Janata MPs which include one Cabinet Minister Rabi Ray and four Ministers of State. The Ministers of State who resigned were Janeshwar Mishra, Ram Kinkar, Narsingh and Jagbir Singh.

— Thirteen women were drowned in the Bhavani river, near Mevani village about 30 km from Erode, when a boat in which they were crossing the river capsized.

13 Eight people were killed and 26 injured when two buses the Punjab roadways collided head-on near Phillaur, about 16 km from Ludhiana.

— Five persons were burried alive when a portion of a coal mine near Tekodiah caved in.

— H.N. Bahuguna, Minister for Petroleum and Chemicals, resigned from the Union Cabinet. Also to resign with H.N. Bahuguna was Fazlur Rahman, Minister of State for Planning. Earlier Mr. Zalfiqurallah, Minister of State for Finance had resigned. With these resignations, the Janata Party's strength in the Lok Sabha fell to 243, and the strength of Janata (S) of Raj Narain rose to 56.

14 At the meeting of the Janata Parliamentary Board, George Fernandes suggested to Prime Minister Morarji Desai to step down voluntarily because of gathering crisis. Morarji Desai rejected the idea saying that he would win the vote of no-confidence motion by a margin of 100. This meeting was not attended by Deputy Prime Minister Charan Singh.

— Four persons were drowned when country craft capsized in the Ganga.

— H.N. Bahuguna, who had earlier resigned from the Union Cabinet also resigned from the Janata Parliamentary Party. Besides H.N. Bahuguna, those who resigned from the JPP were S.L. Sinha, Ram Lal Rahi, Trepan Singh, Jagannath Sharma, Harikesh Bahadur, Kamla Bahuguna, Ram Nihore Rakesh (all members of Lok Sabha) and G.C. Bhattacharya, member of the Rajya Sabha.

July 14 The Janata Ministry in Assam headed by Chief Minister Golap Barbora was sworn-in. The Cabinet Minister sworn in were Mohd. Ali, Dulal Chandra Baruah, Keshab Chandra Gogai, Lakhyadhar Chouwdhry, Someshwar Bora, Lakheswar Ghain, Jagan Nath Sinha, Ramesh Mohan Kohli, S. Naram Thaosan and Lilamoy Das. The Ministers of State sworn-in were-Ram Chander Sharma, Anil Das, Barelong Tareng Abdul Latif, K. Heshkar Borr and Ramani Barman.

— Steel Minister Biju Patnaik and Minister of State for Home Affairs Dhanik Lal Mandal submitted their resignations from the Desai Government.

15 Kerala became the second State after Haryana to achieve cent-per-cent rural electrification in the country.

— Union Industry Minister George Fernandes, Tourism and Civil Aviation Minister Purushotam Lal Kaushik and Minister of State Bhanu Pratap Singh resigned from the Government. Along with Madhu Limaye and six others MPs, they also resigned from the Janata Parliamentary Party bringing down the strength of the party in the Lok Sabha to 217. The Socialist who resigned were: Mrinal Gore, Sharad Yadava, Brahm Prakash (all Lok Sabha MPs) and Ladli Mohan Nigam, Sadashiv Bagaitkar, Jagdish Joshi (all Rajya Sabha MPs).

— Yielding to mounting pressure from his partymen, Prime Minister Morarji Desai submitted his resignation to the President, who asked him to continue in office until alternative arrangements were made. The Prime Minister's resignation came after hectic daylong activity in the Janata camp which included the resignations of two Cabinet Ministers—George Fernandes and Purushotam Kaushik and the Socialist leader Madhu Limaye and 10 other Janata members of the Lok Sabha.

16 Charan Singh resigned from the Council of Ministers. Earlier, he was elected leader of Janata (S).

— Nine persons perished in a devastating fire which broke in a private transport godown in North Madras.

— The two Houses of Parliament were adjourned sine die after barely a minute of business in view of the resignation by Prime Minister Desai and the President's acceptance of it.

— The World Bank announced that its soft-lending affiliate International Development Association (IDA), was providing a

		$ 260 million credit to India for agricultural refining and development. The credit covers irrigation, plantation, horticulture, livestock and fisheries projects which will benefit about one million farmers.
July	17	Rabi Ray was elected leader of the Janata (S) group in the Rajya Sabha.
	18	According to the Overseas Development Administration Britain will provide £ 14 million (about Rs. 22.5 crore) in grants to India to help finance a new terminal power generating station near Calcutta.
	—	K. Tiruvengada Mudaliar, a leading industrialist and Philanthropist, died.
	—	M.S. Sathyu, famous Kannada film comedian, died. He was 41 years old.
	—	President Sanjiva Reddy asked Congress Parliamentary Party leader Y.B. Chavan to explore the possibility of forming a government of "national welfare" to replace Morarji Desai's caretaker Government at the earliest.
	19	About 60 houses collapsed in Data Ramgarin tehsil in Sikar district in a cloudburst.
	—	B.D. Goenka, noted industrialist and director of Express group of papers, died. He was 57.
	—	India acquired its first two Jaguar air-crafts.
	—	Nearly 500 boats and country-craft costing several crores of rupees, were destroyed in a fire in the boat building and repairing yard near the proposed multicrore fishing harbour at Malpe, 10 km from Manipal.
	20	The former Chief Minister of Haryana, Devi Lal announced the launching of Janata (S) in the State with a membership of 32 MLAs reducing the ruling party's strength of 46 in a 90-member House.
	—	The Supreme Court stayed the Calcutta High Court order restraining the Union Government from instituting any fresh cases in the Special Courts against former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and the Special Courts from proceeding with the pending cases against her. Granting the Union Government Special leave to appeal against the High Court Order N.L. Untwalia and Justice A.P. Sen also issued notice to respondents returnable in two weeks.

July 20 V. Pattabhiraman, senior Vice-President of the Tamil Nadu Cricket Associations died. He was 68. Pattu, as he was affectionately known in cricket circles, was associated with the TNCA since its inception in the early 30's. An advocate by profession Mr. Pattabhiraman had been the Vice-President of the TNCA for over three decades.

21 Leaders of the five left parties-Samar Mukherjee (CPI-M), P. Ramamurthy (CPI-M), M.N. Govindan Nair (CPI), Bhupesh Gupta (CPI), Dajibhai Desai (PWD) and Chitta Basu-in Parliament voiced support to the claims of Congress-Janata (S) alliance to form a new Government.

— Pakistan Air Force officials handed over the pilot of the Indian Air Force-Ft. Lt. Jagannath Rao to the IAF authorities at the Wagah border. The aircraft which was piloted by Ft. Lt. Rao had strayed into Pakistan's territory.

22 Janata (S) constituted its national executive, with Raj Narain as its Chairman and R.K. Amin as General Secretary of 29-member executive.

— Y.B. Chavan, Opposition leader in the Lok Sabha conveyed to the President his failure to form a Government. Meanwhile Jagjivan Ram withdrew himself for Janata Parliamentary Party leadership.

23 H.N. Bahuguna and his 10 supporters agreed to become associate members of the Janata Party (S).

— Mirza Sher Ali Baig, member of the Governing Board of the Karnataka State Football Association died at Mecca. Mr. Baig, a popular figure in soccer circles as a football player and later as an administrator for the past half a century left Bangalore on Haj pilgrimage in the first week of this month.

— President Sanjiva Reddy sent a letter to Morarji Desai asking him to indicate his support base in the Lok Sabha and substantiate that it is secure and cohesive. Along with this letter to Mr. Desai, Mr. Reddy has also sent a similar communcation to Charan Singh to furnish evidence in respect of his claim of support so that he could assess for himself evidence in respect of claim whether Mr. Desai or Mr. Charan Singh is in a position to form a stable government.

24 According to an official release, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) will give assistance worth about 2.5 million over the next three years for the University Grants Commission's project of special assistance to selected University departments for developing their research and development (R&D) potential.

July	25	E.M.S. Namboodripad (CPI-M) General Secretary regained his position as the leader of the opposition in the Kerala Assembly following the exit of three M.L.A.s from Congress-I reducing its strength in the House to 16.
	—	The President was faced with rival claims for Prime Minister as Desai and Charan Singh each claiming the support of 280 members in the house having an effective strength of 538 members. With at least 38 of Members belonging to CPI-M R.S.P. Forward Block and Akali Dal declaring their neutrality there was substantial overlapping between the two lists. Meanwhile the Union Minister for Agriculture S.S. Barnala and Minister of State for Education D.S. Gulshan submitted their resignations from the Council of Ministers.
	—	S. Krishnamurty took over as editor of the Free Press Journal and Free Press Bulletin in place of T. Gopalakrishnan who has retired.
	26	The leader of the alliance of Janata-S and Congress, Charan Singh, was invited by President Sanjiva Reddy to Rashtrapati Bhavan in the afternoon and handed over the letter of assignment, as Prime Minister. Mr. Reddy made it clear in the letter that the alliance list submitted to him showed that Charan Singh had a support larger than that of Mr. Desai in the Lok Sabha. The list after three hour verification stood at 262 for Charan Singh against Mr. Desai's 236, implying that even Charan Singh did not have an absolute majority in the house which had an effective strength of 539. Perhaps with this particular inadequacy in view the President's letter to the Prime Minister-designate said "I trust that in accordance with the highest democratic traditions and in the interest of establishing healthy convention you would seek a vote of confidence at the earliest opportunity, say by third week of August, 1979."
	27	India will train 15 Vietnamese Scientists in various fields of technology during 1979-80 under the programme of cooperation signed by the visiting Vice-Chairman, State Commission for Science and Technology, Vietnam with the Indian Government.
	—	J.M. Deb, 67, a veteran journalist, died. Mr. Deb was special correspondent of the Nagpur Times. He had earlier been general manager of the now defunct United Press of India and special correspondent of Assam Tribune.
	—	Morarji Desai stepped down from the leadership of Janata Parliamentary Party. He announced his decision to retire from active political life indicating that he might resign from the membership of the Lok Sabha also. Jagjivan Ram was chosen new leader of the Janata Parliamentary Party.

July 27 The ruling Janata Party in Assam was reduced to a minority following the withdrawal of support by its 21 members to the 14-day old reconstituted Ministry headed by Golap Borbora.

28 The Governor of Karnataka, Govind Narain, signed an Ordinance providing for the creation of Lokayukta to go into the allegations of corruption against Ministers.

— Morarji Desai resigned from the Chancellorship of three Universities-Jawaharlal Nehru, Viswa Bharti and North-East Hill-with which he was associated as Prime Minister.

— Three top Law Officers of the Desai Government submitted their resignations keeping with the convention that they should resign when the Government appointing them quits. They are S.N. Kacker, Solicitor-General, Soli Sorabjee and K.K. Venugopal Additional Solicitors General. Attorney-General S.V. Gupte had already resigned on 27th July.

29 The Congress Parliamentary Board resolved the Party crisis by retaining all the earlier six names and adding four others for inclusion in the Charan Singh Ministry. The new names have been so selected as to give representation to the minorities, Scheduled Castes and Women. The North-Eastern Region also found a place in the cabinet. In addition to the six names already announced (Brahmanada Reddy, Hitendra Desai, C. Subramaniam, T.A. Pai, Dr. Karan Singh and K.C. Pant) the Board decided to recommend the name of Mohd. Shafi Qureshi for Ministership of the Cabinet rank and Dr. Henry Austin (Kerala) and Mrs. Rashida Haque Choudhury (Assam), wife of the late Moinul Haque Choudhury, will be Minister of State.

— The swearing-in of a nine-member coalition Government headed by Charan Singh took place in Rashtrapati Bhavan. The swearing-in was accompanied by big drama when President Sanjiva Reddy cancelled the appointment of six Congress nominees who stayed away from the Rashtrapati Bhavan ceremony. Y.B. Chavan, leader of the Congress Parliamentary Party, who was the only nominee of his party to be sworn-in was later named Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Home Affairs. H.N. Bahuguna was appointed Finance Minister and S.N. Mishra, Minister for External Affairs. The other Ministers who were sworn-in were Biju Patnaik, Zulfiquarullah, Rabi Ray, Ram Kinkar and Purushottam Kaushik, all members of Desai's Council of Ministers. The first communique issued from Rashtrapati Bhavan included the names of Congress Minister- C. Subramaniam, Dr. Karan Singh, K. Brahmananda Reddy Hitendra Desai and K.C. Pant. Their absence was explained by the fact that the Congress MPs had strongly objected to their nomination as all of them were associated with Mrs. Indira Gandhi's emergency camp.

July 30 Acharya K.C. Brahaspati died in Kurukshetra. He was born in Rampur (UP) in 1918. He was one of our eminent musicologists as well as scholar of Sanskrit and Philosophy. He wrote many books and treatises and was associated with several academic organizations. In 1970 he was awarded the Sangeet Natak Akademi fellowship. He was also Chief Adviser to Akashwani for Hindustani music, Braj Bhasa and Sanskrit.

— Dr. Atma Ram, Chairman of the National Committee of Science and Technology (NCST), resigned.

— Former Union Industry Minister George Fernandes was elected President of the National Railway Mazdoor Union (NRMU), marking his re-entry into active trade union movement after about four years. Mr. Fernandes polled 365 votes against 151 of his long rival B.R. Srivastava at the election held during the annual session of the union which was held in Pune (Daund).

— Mangaldeo Visharad, Janata Party MP from Akbarpur, died. He was 55.

— Mohan Singh Tur, MP, died in Chandigarh after protracted illness. He was admitted to the hospital following a cardiac arrest on July 9. After showing some improvement he suffered another attack two days ago, which proved fatal. In Akali politics he occupied an eminent position. Mr. Tur was born in 1915 in Tur village of Amritsar district. He was General Secretary of the SGPC for about 15 years and its Vice-president for sometime. During the emergency, he was president of the Akali Dal and was arrest in 1976. He was elected member of the Lok Sabha in March 1977.

— Nandkumar Dani, freedom fighter and Sarvodaya worker, died in Raipur. He was 75. He was a member of the All India Congress Committee for several years.

— P.D. Tarwade and Mohan Maragu Pawar were declared elected as Mayor and Deputy Mayor respectively of Pune Municipal Corporation.

— Prakash Padukone, India's top badminton player and the reigning Commonwealth Champion was chosen the sportsman of the year from India for 1978-79 at the annual general body meeting Sports Journalist Association of Bombay.

July 30 Rajendra Kumar Singh, Congress (I) member of the Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha, died. He was 55.

— Shanti Naik, Minister of State for Finance (Maharashtra) resigned from the primary membership of Janata Party on her being appointed as Convener of the Janata (Secular) in Maharashtra and a member of the National Executive of the party.

— The three-month old Janata Party Government in Patna (Bihar) headed by Ramsunder Das, survived a no-confidence motion with the help of the Congress-I. The motion fell by 185 votes to 135.

— Eight Cabinet and five Deputy Ministers joined the two-tier Bhajan Lal Ministry (Haryana) raising its strength to 21. The Ministry had eight Cabinet rank Ministers when it was sworn-in on June 28, after the fall of the Devi Lal Government.

31 Governor of Madhya Pradesh C.M. Poonacha accepted the resignations of L.N. Yadav, Minister for Collegiate Education, Yaqub Rizhavani, Minister for Wakf Affairs and Natural Resources and Ramlal Chandrakar, Minister of State for Cooperation. The resignations of the two Parliamentary Secretary Arjun Singh Dharu and Madhav Singh Dhruv were accepted by Chief Minister V.K. Saklecha.

— Prime Minister Charan Singh removed the unhapiness of Mohammed Shafi Qureshi by giving him the portfolio of his choice-Tourism and Civil Aviation. Mr. Qureshi was sworn-in earlier as Minister for Labour and Parliamentary affairs. Fazlur Rahman, who was earlier appointed Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation took over Labour and Parliamentary Affairs.

— Romesh Bhandari, Additional Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs took over as Secretary from M.A. Vellodi, who retired after 32 years of service.

— Ten Cabinet Ministers and seven Ministers of State were sworn-in at Rashtrapati Bhavan. This was the first instalment of additions to the Charan Singh Government. The new Cabinet Ministers included six Congress nominees who were to have taken oath earlier but did not because of differences within the Party over its representative. One more Congress nominee Mohammed Shafi Qureshi was also sworn-in as Cabinet Minister. Portfolios allocated were as follows: Charan Singh Prime Minister and all Ministries and departments not specified, Brahm Parkash: Agriculture and Irrigation, Hitendra Desai: Commerce and Civil Supplies, Karan Singh: Education, Social Welfare and Culture, Purushottam Kaushik: Information and

Broadcasting, Ram Kinker: Works, Housing, Supply and Rehabilitation, H.R. Khanna: Law, Justice and Company Affairs, K.C. Pant: Energy, T.A. Pai: Petroleum and Chemicals and Fertilizers, Biju Patnaik: Steel, Mines and Coal, Mohd. Shafi Qureshi: Tourism and Civil Aviation, Rabi Roy: Health and Family Welfare, K. Brahmananda Reddy: Industry, Fazular Rahman: Labour, C. Subramaniam: Defence, Zulfiquarulla: Communication and also Muslim Wakf.

August 1 An agreement was signed between the representatives of Indian Bank Association (IBA), All India Bank Employees Association (AIBEA) and National Confederation of Bank Employees (NCBE) according to which about 400,000 employees of 49 class "A" commercial banks will get gross pay increase ranging from Rs. 20 to Rs. 117 per month with effect from September 1978.

— The All-India Anna DMK (A-IADMK) has decided to join the coalition Ministry at the Centre on the basis of a minimum programme acceptable to the party.

— A batch of 100 rebel Mizos led by "Colonel" Vanthanga, former "Commander-in-Chief" of the banned Mizo National Army bade farewell to arms, surrendered before Mizoram's Inspector-General of Police and signed the oath of allegience to the Indian Constitution at Aizawl.

— India and Algeria signed an agreement under which both will initiate co-operative research projects in the fields of solar energy, nutrition, medical research, food technology and agricultural science.

— The Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Banarsi Das announced his allegience to the Prime Minister Charan Singh and the Janata (S) Chairman, Raj Narain. On August 3, Janata Party Chief, Chandra Shekhar expelled Banarsi Das from the primary membership of the Janata Party.

2 At a meeting Prime Minister Charan Singh had with leaders of various political parties represented in Parliament, Mr. Hidayatullah former Chief Justice of India emerged as the choice for Vice-Presidentship.

— H.R. Khanna, Union Minister for Law, Justice and Company Affairs resigned from the Council of Ministers in a sensitive reaction to reported criticism from some bar members that he should not have joined the Government. Mr. Khanna sent in his resignation to the Prime Minister barely 48 hours after he had been sworn-in.

— India and Nigeria signed at Lagos an agreement on technical and economic cooperation thus formalising a memorandum of understanding signed between the two countries in December, 1977.

— Indian couple, Dr. Rajanikant Arole and Dr. Mrs. Mabelle Arole have been named as the winner of this year's Roman

Magsaysay Award for community leadership for bringing medicine to thousands of deprived villagers in West Central India and spuring them to economic progress.

August 2 Karan Dewan, matinee idol of yester years, died following prolonged illness. Dewan 62, had won applause with his performance in "Ratan", "Musafir Khana", "Bahar" and "Choo Mantar" etc.

— Mrs. Indira Gandhi (Accused No. 1) in the jeep scandal case appeared before Justice M.S. Joshi of Special Court No. 1 and was ordered not to be taken into custody on furnishing personal recognisance and surety bonds of Rs. 15,000 each to the satisfaction of the registrar.

3 The Lenin Peace Prize was presented to K.P.S. Menon of India at Moscow. He announced the prize money of Rs. one lakh would be utilized for the promotion of Indo-Soviet friendship.

— The President N. Sanjiva Reddy prorogued both Houses of Parliament.

— Prime Minister Charan Singh appeared in the Court of Additional Session Judge V.S. Aggarwal as a prosecution witness and gave evidence against Jai Narain, the youth who allegedly made an attempt on his life at his Tughlaq Road residence on 24th Dec; 1978.

— S.N. Kacker (57) who resigned as Solicitor-General of India when the new Government took over was sworn-in as the Minister for Law, Justice and Company Affairs, in place of Justice H.R. Khanna, who had resigned earlier.

— The Speaker of the Lok Sabha appointed R. Venkataraman as Chairman of the Committee on Public Accounts. He took the place of T.A. Pai who ceased to be a member of the committee on his appointment as Minister.

— The Union Government announced a series of benefits for the personnel of Central Industrial Security Force.

4 Gulab Rai Kholi, elder brother of Delhi's Lt. Governor allegedly committeed suicide by shooting himself in his Jangpura House in New Delhi.

— An Indian Airlines Avro Plane carrying 41 passengers and four crew from Pune to Bombay crashed 40 km from Bombay.

— The two-and-a-half month old "work to procedure" agitation by the Reserve Banks' employees has been called off, following an agreement between All-India Reserve Bank Employees Association and the Reserve Bank.

— Prime Minister Charan Singh set up a six-member committee on political affairs for taking major policy decisions. Besides the Prime Minister, the committee consists of the Deputy Prime Minister, Y.B. Chavan, the Finance Minister, H.N.

Bahuguna, the Minister of External Affairs S.N. Mishra, the Steel Minister Biju Patnaik and the Defence Minister C. Subramaniam.

August 4 Two persons were killed and 85 injured, 20 seriously when the Bombay-Howrah Mail met with an accident at Buti Bori, near Nagpur.

— The strength of the Union Council of Ministers headed by Charan Singh rose to 36 with the swearing-in of nine more Ministers of State belonging to the Congress Party. With these appointments the number of Congress Ministers has risen to 20, of whom 8 were of Cabinet rank and the rest Ministers were M.V. Krishnappa (Karnataka) Nathuram Mirdha (Rajasthan), Ankineedu Prasad Rao (Andhra Pradesh), P.M. Sayeed (Laccadives), Bedabrata Barua (Assam), Saugata Roy (West Bengal), Kishore Chandra S. Deo (Orissa), K. Gopal (Tamil Nadu) and B. Rachaiah (Karnatka).

— U.C. Tewari, a senior officer of the Central Information Service, took over as Director of News, All India Radio in New Delhi.

5 Gurdial Singh Sindhu, President of the Ganganagar district Janata Party was shot dead. He was 70.

6 Central Reserve Police Force wrested the 28th All-India swimming and Cross Country Championship held in Lucknow.

— Four army personnel were killed while five others were injured seriously when two army vehicles in which they were travelling collided at Krishna Ghati, 15 km from Poonch.

— Jagbir Singh was appointed Minister of State for Defence and Dhanik Lal Mandal, Minister of State for Home Affairs.

— K.P.S. Menon, Indian High Commissioner in Dacca has been appointed Ambassador to Egypt in succession to Ashoka Sen Chib.

— Manmohan, the Hindi film actor, died. He was 45. The villain of several films, he had joined films in 1962.

— Mohammad Hidayatullah, consensus candidate, filed nomination papers for the Vice-Presidential election. His name has been proposed by the Prime Minister Charan Singh and nine others as proposers and equal number as seconders.

— A presidential order summoning the two houses of Parliament to meet from August 20 was issued.

7 The Army was placed on the alert in Assam's Silchar subdivision after the killing earlier in the day of seven civilians by Mizo rebel near Bilkithlier in Mizoram and two other incidents involving Mizos and non-Mizos on the outskirts of Silchar town.

August 7 At least 25 people died when a hundred-year-old two-storey "dharamsala" situated close to a temple collapsed.

— Former Solicitor-General Lal Narain Sinha was appointed as Attorny General of India. He succeeded S.V. Gupte, who resigned recently following the change of Government at the Centre.

— Nine labourers were drowned when a boat in which they were crossing the Narmada sank near Vedgam village, 30 km from Rajpipla.

— Prime Minister, Charan Singh allocated portfolios to nine Ministers of State Nathuram Mirdha and M.V. Krishnappa. Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, P.M. Sayeed and Kishore Deo, Ministry of Steel, Coal and Mines, Henry Austin, Ministry of Commerce and Civil Supplies, Saugata Roy, Petroleum and Chemicals, Rashida Chaudhary, Education, Social Welfare and Culture, K. Gopal, Parliamentary Affairs and Narsingh, Ministry of Communications.

— Prime Minister, Charan Singh nominated K.C. Pant, Minister of Energy, as leader of the Rajya Sabha.

— The second cricket test between India and England ended in a draw at Lords.

— S.S. Bhale Rao, Returning Officer for the Vice-Presidential elections informed newsmen that he has scrutinized all the eleven nomination papers for the office of Vice-President, and accepted only one nomination paper that of Mohammad Hidayatullah which fulfills all the requirements laid down under the law.

— Union Government appointed P.B. Rajagopal as the Director-General of Central Reserve Police Force.

8 Soli Sorabji was elevated as Solicitor-General of India and K.K. Venugopal as additional Solicitor General No. 1

9 Mohammad Hidayatullah, former Chief Justice of India was declared elected unopposed as the next Vice-President of India.

— N. Subbarayan, AIADMK member of the Tamil Nadu Assembly, died. He was 46.

— UP Janata Party called upon the Governor to invite Raj Mangal Pandey, MLA to form a new Ministry in the State as he had earlier been unanimously elected leader of the Janata Legislature Party. Mr. Pandey's election took place in view of the recent expulsion of the Chief Minister Mr. Das from the Janata Party by the party president, Chandra Shekhar.

10 India's ambitious space programme suffered a setback when the Satellite Launch Vehicle (SLV-three), making the first of the

three planned test flights, failed to carry its 40 kg technological payload into earth's orbit. The last stage of the 22-metre-high four-stage rocket plummeted into the sea five mintues and 15 seconds after take off at 7.58 a.m. with the payload in what was later officially described as a "partially unsuccessful" experimental flight. The last launch was made from the Sriharkota range (SHAR) satellite launch complex in the tiny island, 100 km north of Madras. The splashdown occurred about 500 km South-East of SHAR in the Bay of Bengal.

August 10 India's High Commissioner to Britain, N.G. Goray resigned and informed the External Affairs Ministry at New Delhi that he does not intend to go back to London after his return to New Delhi on August 17.

— Thirty-five persons met a watery grave when a Goa-Bombay luxury bus skidded and fell into a river near Mahad.

11 The Army sealed all border outlets from Mizoram to neighbouring Burma and Bangladesh to prevent fresh entry of the outlawed Mizo National Front groups into the Union Territory.

— According to the Rashtrapti Bhavan Communique, Tukaram Sadashiv Shrangare was appointed Minister of State for Communication and B. Rachaiah, Minister of State for Industry.

— The Soviet Vice-President and President of the Latvian Republic, Peter Y. Strantmanis arrived in New Delhi on 11-day visit to India.

— Strength of the ruling Janata Party in Assam was reduced from 61 to 42 in a House of 126 with the resignation of four Janata legislators from primary party membership.

12 A.V. Meyyappa Chettiar, 72, noted film producer, died. Mr. Chettiar was the founder of the prestigious AVM studio in Madras.

— About 1000 people were feared to have been killed in the flash floods which engulfed Morvi town and the surrounding areas following breaches in Machoo Dam due to heavy rains.

13 The 54-day-old C.R.P. men's strike at Trivandrum was called off following talks in New Delhi on August 8, by the All-India C.R.P. Association leaders with Deputy Prime Minister Y.B. Chavan.

— An agreement between India's National Federation of Industrial Co-operatives and its counterpart in the USSR—Sojuz—Koopveroshtire was signed in Moscow according to which Soviet Union will buy Indian tea and knitwear worth Rs. 1.26 crore before 1980.

— The prestigious Rs. one lakh Jamnalal Bajaj award for outstanding contribution in the field of constructive work this year was announced for London-born 78-year old Miss Sarlaben, formerly Catherine Mary Hellmann and Baba Amte. Miss

Sarlaben is from the Kasturba Mahila Uthan Mandal at Kausani in Uttar Pradesh and Mr. Amte is running the Maharogi Sewa Samti (a model leper home) at Warora in Maharashtra.

August 13 S.K. Bhutani, presently India's Ambassador to Poland, has been appointed Ambassador to Indonesia in succession to B.S. Mishra.

— The Sikkim Assembly was dissolved nearly four months after it completed its five year term on April 16, last, by the Governor, on the advice of the Chief Minister Kazi Lhendup Dorji. The Kazi will now head a caretaker Government until alternative arrangements were made. The Kazi said the ruling Janata Party enjoyed complete majority with 26 members in a house of 32. The dissolution of the Assembly would pave way for election to the State Assembly which is already due following the 44th amendment of the Constitution.

— The Union Cabinet presided over by Charan Singh decided to allow the Additional Emoluments (Compulsory Deposit) Ordinance to lapse; to continue the minimum bonus of 8.33 per cent and the maximum of 20 per cent for another year to withdraw the Reserve Bank of India (Maintenance of Service) Ordinance prohibiting strikes and go-slow in the Reserve Bank.

14 Edourd Goubert, former Chief Minister of Pondichery died. He was 85. Known as father of Pondichery Mr. Goubert had been awarded the highest French decoration "Cnevalier-de-Lagion d'Honour". He was member of the French Parliament. A freedom fighter Mr. Goubert had fought for the merger of Pondichery with the Indian Union. He was also the Mayor of Pondichery.

— Faridabad will be a new district of Haryana from Independence day (August 15). The new district to be carved out of Gurgaon district, will be the twelfth in the State and will form part of Hissar Division. Rohtak district is to be transferred from Hissar to Ambala Division each having six districts.

— Mrs. Sati Devi, a celebrated singer of yesteryears of Tagore and Atulprasadi songs—died. She was 67.

— Seven persons were killed and eight others injured in a landslide in Bageshwar tehsil of Almora district.

— Two engine drivers and two firemen were killed when a goods train dashed against the stationary engine of another goods train at Guntur railway station.

— A Premier faction of the Mizo National Front formally snapped ties with the banned rebel body when its leader, former Chief of the underground army "brigadier General" Biakchhunga bade farewell to the arms and owned the Constitution. "Brig Gen". Biakchhunga (45), who once ousted Laldenga to become MNF President last year, himself led his 103 followers affirming their will to join national mainstream.

August	15	Fifteen persons were killed and three others injured in a landslide near village Sisna in Pithoragarh district.
	—	S. Labh Singh, President of the Sant Nirankari Mandal, died in Almora. Born in 1903 in Dhudhial village, now in Pakistan. Labh Singh was one of the founders of the Nirankari movement. He wrote several books on the Nirankari Philosophy.
	—	Three persons were killed and 15 injured, three of them seriously, when the Delhi bound Jammu Mail collided with a shunting engine between Panipat and Diwana railway stations.
	16	About a dozen persons met a watery grave when a goods train hit them on a railway bridge over the Yamuna in Mathura. The mishap occurred as the ill-fated pedestrians were crossing the bridge not heeding the warning by home guards.
	—	Forty-two persons were killed and nearly a dozen others suffered injuries in a landslide in Kuntha village, 65 km from Nandprayag. The landslide has been caused by incessant rains in the area for the last one week.
	—	The price of petrol has been raised by 35 paise litre, of kerosene and high speed diesel oil (HSD) by 17 paise and light diesel oil by 32 paise. The gas cylinder will cost Rs. 5 more. The upward revision in the prices of petroleum products was announced by the Union Government to collect an additional revenue of about Rs. 870 crores. The step has been necessitated by the unprecedented rise in the price of crude oil and petroleum products in the world market.
	—	Noted Marathi writer Datta Raghunath Kavathekar died. He was 79.
	—	Prof. Raj Krishan relinquished his membership of the Planning Commission and joined Delhi University.
		The three members of the Minority Commission—Prof. V.V. John, Air Chief Marshal Arjan Singh (retired) and Miss Aloo Dastur, who visited Jamshedpur with the Chairman Justice M.R.A. Ansari after the riots, affirmed that they found "no evidence" of Rashtriya Swyam Sevak Sangh (R.S.S.) involvement either in Jamshedpur or in the May riots in Aligarh.
	17	Giteswar Raj, Ambassador of India to Kuwait, has been appointed Ambassador of India to Vietnam.
	—	The International Airport Authority of India (IAAI) got a Rs. 22 crore contract to build an airport at Riyan, 420 miles from Aden (South Yemen)
	—	The Janata Party President Chandra Shekhar removed the Chief Minister of Orissa Nilamani Routray from primary membership of the party "for anti-party activities and defiance of the directive of Central Party." On August 18 the Chief Minister expelled six MLAs for their anti-party activities.

August 18 Former Maharashtra Chief Minister V.P. Naik died in Singapore. He had gone to Singapore on August 6, on a holiday. Mr. Naik, 66, had earned a name as a pragmatic Chief Minister and ruled Maharashtra for 13 years. As soon as he took over as Chief Minister in 1963, he relaxed the prohibition policy in force in the State at that time.

— Janki Nath Bhat, Counsellor in the Indian Embassy at Bonn has been appointed High Commissioner to Guyana. He succeeds Pushkar Johri.

— Mrs. Rajkumari Ruia, wife of Radhakrishna Ruia, a well known industrialist of Bombay, died. She was 54, Mrs. Ruia was connected with many charitable institutions.

— President's rule was imposed in Sikkim following the dissolution of the State Assembly and resignation of the Kazi Lendup Dorji Ministry.

— Two days before the Janata-S and Congress coalition Government seeks the confidence of the Lok Sabha on 20th instant, the Government announced its 27-point objectives covering political, social and economic questions besides indicating the Government's stand on subjects like language, foreign policy corruption role of working class, electoral laws, science and technology but do not make any specific reference to authoritarianism or communalism.

— Veerendra Patil, former Chief Minister of Karnataka resigned from Janata Party as he felt that the Janata prestige was at low ebb, especially after the development of the past six weeks.

19 A. Bala Pajanoor and Mrs. Sathiavani Muthu of the ADMK were sworn-in as Union Cabinet Ministers, raising the strength of the Charan Singh Ministry to 38.

— Highest honour by the Pepperdine University of California was conferred in the former Prime Minister Morarji Desai. The citation conferring the "distinguished diploma of honour" described Mr. Desai as the "World's principal living link with the great Mahatma Gandhi" and a "super citizen of the world."

20 Charan Singh Government submitted its resignation to the President immediately after the Congress (I) Parliamentry Board's decision to oppose the Government in the confidence vote which was to be taken in the Lok Sabha in the evening. Charan Singh held an emergency meeting of the Cabinet which decided to resign and recommend dissolution of the House. He tendered the resignation of his 23 day old Council of Ministers to the President at 10.45 a. m., 15 minutes before the Lok Sabha was to start discussion on a confidence motion to be moved by the Prime Minister. The Lok Sabha which assembled at 11 a. m. had to be adjourned for three hours to await words from the President on the acceptence of the resignation,

A Rashtrapati communique issued at 1 P. M. said that the President had accepted the resignation of Charan Singh and his colleagues and asked them to continue in office till other arrangements are made.

August 20 Both Houses of Parliament were adjourned sine-die following the resignation of the Charan Singh Government. Adjournment of the Rajya Sabha took place within five minutes of its assembling, which the Lok Sabha adjourned in the afternoon after two brief sittings, lasting in all 30 minutes.

— M. Rami Reddy, Congress (I) member of the Andhra Pradesh Assembly, died. He was 50.

21 Dr. P. D. Hajela, Vice-Chancellor of Allahabad University, was suspended. The step has been taken by the Governor G. D. Tapase on the basis of recommendations of the Visen Committee on charges of grave irregularities in appointments and misuse of Power.

— Fifteen people were killed when a truck carrying chlorine gas cylinders fell into a 90-meter deep valley on the Dornal—Atmakur Ghat road about 40 km. from Kurnool in Andhra Pradesh.

— An indefinite curfew was imposed in Champhai town in Southern Mizoram, following the killing of a CRP personnel by Mizo National Front insurgents on August 20.

— The third test between India and England ended in a draw. The match was played in Leeds.

22 Five women were drowned when a boat carrying them capsized in the Panchane river near Giriat.

— India and Sri Lanka signed an agreement under which the former would extend a credit of Rs. 10 crores to Sri Lanka to finance the export of capital and intermediate goods.

— K. D. Malaviya announced his resignation from the Congress.

— Karnataka Chief Minister Devraj Urs formally joined the Indian National Congress. Speaking to newsmen he announced that the Karnataka Congress will formally join the Congress Party in the forthcoming AICC meeting in Bangalore.

— Members of both Houses of Parliament bade farewell to the outgoing Vice-President B. D. Jatti and paid rich tributes to his stewardship of the Rajya Sabha during a stormy five-year period.

— The President dissolved the sixth Lok Sabha. Elections for a new Lok Sabha will be held in November-December. The Charan Singh Government will continue in office until a new Government is formed after elections. President's decision

		follows meetings he held earlier in the day with Congress (I) leader C. M. Stephen, Janta Parliamentry Party Leader Jagjivan Ram and Janta President Chandra Shekhar. Charan Singh Government has been advised not to take any important policy decisions till the elections are held.
August	22	Three persons, including the driver were killed when a goods train proceeding towards Delhi was derailed near Koshi-Kalan Railway Station.
	23	O. V. Algesan resigned from the Presidentship of the Tamil Nadu Congress.
	—	The Congress High Command stripped Narendra Tidke of the office of the President of the Maharashtra Pradesh Congress Committee and installed Annasaheb Shinde former Agriculture Minister, in his place.
	—	Father Jakob Acharuparambi has been named new bishop of Trivandrum. The new bishop was born in Kerala on April 16, 1919 and ordained a priest in March 1945. He furthered his theological studies in Kendy seminary.
	—	The President has appointed Milan Kumar Banerji senior advocate Calcutta High Court as the second Additional Solicitor, General of India with effect from the date he takes charge of the office.
	—	The Telugu writer and literary critic G.V. Krishna Rao, died. He was 66. A radical humanist, his famous works included Keelu Bommalu and Papiko Dalu (novels) Jegantalu (critic of Plato's philosophy) and Kavya Tagathu (art of drama critic).
	—	Three agreements were signed between India and Britain in New Delhi. One was for a grant of Rs. 54.8 crores to finance the rupee cost of Indian development projects and programmes. Another agreement was for Rs. 19.6 crores to the overseas communication services for the supply and installation by standard telephones and cables Ltd of a submarine Telecommunications cable between Madras and Penang. Third agreement was for provision of Rs. 30 crores to finance the import of earth moving equipment for irrigation and multipurpose projects.
	24	The allocation of Portfolios to two All-India ADMK Ministers were announced. Chemicals and Fertilizers and Petroleum Ministry was given to A. Bala Pajanoor and Social Welfare Ministry was allotted to Dr. Sathiavani Mathu.
	—	The Bill for a Legislature Assembly set up for Delhi lapsed with dissolution of Lok Sabha.
	—	Dr. J.C. Banerjee, eminent cardiologist died. He was 78. Dr. Banerjee was a cardiovascular consultant of the World Health Organisation in 1963 and represented India at the Asian Pacific Congress of Cardiology in Tokyo in 1964. He was Professor Director of medicine of Calcutta Medical College and Hospital,

August	24	In its second report, the National Police Commission recommended "the police personnel should think themselves as servant of law and not of political leaders' and suggested code of conduct for Members of Parliament and legislatures in relation to the police."
	—	Six people were killed and one seriously injured when their truck fell into a khud near Rajgarh.
	25	Purushotham Kaushik, Minister for Information and Broadcasting arrived in Moscow to lead the Indian delegation to the Moscow Film Festival.
	26	Dr. Hamid Qureshi was sworn-in as a Minister in the Madhya Pradesh Government.
	—	Kunhikkal Narayanan, top Naxalite leader of Kerala, died. He was 66. Mr. Narayanan was accused in the Tellichery-Pulpally Naxalite Police Station attack cases.
	27	B.P. Maurya, who was elected to the Rajya Sabha on the Congress-I ticket and is a permanent invitee to the Congress-I working committee, resigned from the party.
	—	Dr. Rafiq Zakaria announced his decision to resign as the Deputy leader of Congress Party in Parliament in protest against the Party's alliance with the Janata (S) at the Centre. He was elected to the Rajya Sabha in April 1978 and became the deputy leader of the Congress Party last year.
	—	Earl Mountbatten of Burma, last British Viceroy and first Governor-General of independent India, was killed when his small boat was blown up by what Irish Guerrillas said was a 50-pound bomb set off by remote control. He was 79.
	—	Former Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Vasantrao Patil announced that he would join the Congress (I) on September 10 at a meeting of Congress workers to be addressed by Mrs. Gandhi.
	—	Seven people died after consuming spurious liquor in Ajmer.
	—	Twenty-two passengers were killed and 34 seriously injured when a Beas-bound Punjab roadways bus fell into the 30 ft. deep Kasur nallah, 8 km from Amritsar, while crossing the Emanawala bridge.
	28	Appeals filed by Sanjay Gandhi and V.C. Shukla against their conviction and sentence in the Kissa Kursi Ka case were transferred from Delhi High Court to the Supreme Court under the Special Courts Acts.

August 28 A dusk-to-dawn curfew was imposed in Jamshedpur following clashes between two groups in which at least five people were killed. On 29 August four more persons were killed in riot-torn Jamshedpur in a clash between two groups of people raising the toll to 10. A 14-hour curfew was also imposed for the second day. On 30th August besides a few stray incidents, a fisherman was stabbed to death in Kadma area and another seriously injured raising the death roll in the current riots to 11. The city was on the whole peaceful though tension persisted in Dhatkidih Kadma, Shastri Nagar, Harijan Basti and Nurani Kudar area where the disturbances had occurred during the past three days.

— Jain Muni, Jayanand Vijay Maharaj, who had completed a 70-day fast earlier this month, died. He was 60.

— Lt. Gcr. T. R. Pahwa, the former Director General of Armed Forces Medical Services, died. He was 73.

— Malsawma Coloney who rose to be the "President" of the of the Outlawed Mizo National Front during late last Year's upheaval in the underground hierarchy, surrendered and vowed to abide by the Constitution. Coloney led his five hardcore associates informally affirming allegiance to the constitution before Mijoram's Inspector, General.

— Mrinal Sen's film "Parasuram" won a Silver medal in the 11th international film festival which concluded in Moscow.

— S. Nihal Singh, editor of the Statesman was re-elected Chairman of the United News of India and Dr. G. S. Rajhans deputy General manager of the Hindustan Times and H. N. Thakur, director of the Newspapers and Publications limited were appointed directors.

29 Dr. S. K. S. Bhandari, Professor of Business Management Banaras Hindu University, has been appointed Vice-Chancellor of Rewa University.

— Mrs. Swapna Kumari Mukherjee, eminent jatra actress of Bengal, died. The 31-year old actress, known to jatra world as Swapna Kumari, hailed from an aristocratic family of Murshidabad district.

— N. D. Marshal, a member of the first Indian cricket team to tour England in 1932, died. Mr. Marsbal, who was 70, was a part-time coach of the Rajasthan Sports Council.

— The six-month old Banarsi Das Ministry emerged victorious in the trial of strength in the UP Assembly by defeating the Opposition no-confidence motion by a margin of 21 votes. In all 197 members voted for the no-confidence motion, out of which five votes were found invalid. As many as 218 members voted against the motion.

August	29	Twelve persons were killed and 30 injured when a tourist bus dashed against a bridge and fell into a ditch near Silarmiaendi, 9 km. from Nalgonda on the Narkatpally—Nalgonda road.
	30	Om Prakash a poineer in the publishing field, died of a heart attack. He was 62.
	—	Dinesh Goswami was elected to be the new Chief whip of Congress party in the Rajya Sabha. The appointment has been necessitated by the resignation of Bipinpal Das from the post of Chief whip of the Congress in protest against the party's participation in the Charan Singh Government.
	—	President promulgated an Ordinance providing for the payment of bonus for last year. Employees of banking companies and Industrial Re-Constructions of India' who had been excluded from the purview of bonus law in 1976, would also be eligible for payment of bonus for the accounting year 1978.
	—	Ravinder Singh, Janata MLA, who was shot in his back at Gorakhpur railway station when he was taking the train to return to Lucknow, died.
	31	Chatra Gopal Karmarkar, 45, Congress member of the Assam Assembly, died.
	—	Announced that Vice-President M. Hidayatullah will represent India at the funeral of Lord Mountbatten at London, whereas Naval Staff Admiral R.L. Pereira will be one of the poll bearers at the funeral.
September	2	Dr. M.S Swaminathan, former Director General of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, won the Borlaug Award for 1978. The award is being given for his outstanding Contribution to agricultural research, agricultural development in all its aspects.
	—	Eight labourers were killed and sixteen others injured, six of them seriously, when a sand-laden truck rolled down in a river near Bakra village.
	—	Fifteen people died in Lucknow after consuming spurious country liquor, the first such incident since prohibition was introduced in UP.
	—	An official delegation headed by Bhanu Pratap Singh, Minister for Rural Reconstruction, left New Delhi to represent India at the fifth Ministerial session of the United Nations World Food Council to be held in Ottawa from September 4 to 7.
	—	President Sanjiva Reddy inaugurated silver jubilee celebrations of Sri Venkateswara University.
	3	Premier Automobile has increased the price of their Padmini (Fiat) by 8.50 per cent with immediate effect.

September	4	The 18-month old Janata Ministry in Assam fell when the Chief Minister Golap Borbora, submitted the resignation of his council of Ministers pre-empting the no-confidence motion before the Assembly.
	—	Union Ministry of Social Welfare decided to release $ 200,000 (US) from the UNICEF fund for the assistance of the flood-hit people of Morvi in Gujarat.
	5	A.R. Kakodkar, head of Africa Division in the Ministry of External Affairs, has been appointed ambassador to Portugal in succession to P.K. Guha.
	—	Former Rajasthan Chief Minister, Mohan Lal Sukhadia and Ram Niwas Mirdha, Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, decided to join Congress-I.
	—	Mrs. Indira Patil, wife of S.K. Patil, died. She was 75.
	—	Seven persons were killed and about 24 injured when a roadways bus ran over them near Sankatmochan temple on Kanpur-Jhansi national highway, about seven km from Orai town of Jalaun district.
	—	Veerendra Patil, former Karnataka Chief Minister, who fought against Mrs. Indira Gandhi in the Chikmagalur, has joined her party.
	6	The Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh, Prem Khandu Thungon, resigned following large-scale defections from the ruling Janata Legislature Party, including three of his Cabinet's four members. Mr. Thungon's resignation submitted to the lieutenant-Governor R.N. Haldipur, at 2.30 p.m., ended 17 months of Janata rule in the Union Territory.
	—	An Indian Air Force plane on a regular exercise flight crashed near Balotra about 200 km from Jodhpur. The pilot, the sole occupant was killed.
	—	India and People's Democratic Republic of Yemen signed an agreement in Aden according to which India is to build an airport project at Riyan near Aden.
		P.K. Mookiah Thevar, member of the Tamil Nadu Assembly, died. He was 54.
	—	S.L. Sharma, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Defence was appointed as Chief Commissioner of the Andaman and Nicobar island.
	—	Sunil Gavaskar, who had captained India against the West Indies at home but had been replaced by S. Venkataraghavan for the England tour, has been recalled as the Indian skipper for the test series against Australia.

September 7 The Gupta Commission's report on Maruti released by the Government is an unequivocal indictment of the former Prime Minister, Mrs. Gandhi, as "The origin of the power" that made possible the entire range of Maruti's affairs. Mr. Justice A.C. Gupta, who constituted the Commission of inquiry said: "From the interest taken in Maruti's progress by men from the Prime Minister's secretariat and the way even matters connected with the country's defence were subordinated to the interest of Maruti limited, and the prevailing sense of fear that prompted implicit obedience one is left in no doubt as to the origin of the power that made such a state of affairs possible.

— The Hindu Mahasabha has decided to field Mrs. Sindu Godse, wife of Nathuram Godse against Mrs. Indira Gandhi and Gopal Godse against the Janata (S) Chairman, Raj Narain, in the coming Lok Sabha poll.

— The Union Cabinet decided to extend the life of the Law Commission constituted in 1977 with Justice H.R. Khanna as Chairman for a further period of three years.

8 At least 10 persons were burried alive when a chunk of a hillock fell on them at a place, about 30 km from Tuensang (Khoma). The victims were labourers and they were clearing the road when the landslide occurred.

— Mohanlal Sukhadia, Congress leader, formally announced his decision to join the Congress (I) at hurriedly summoned Press conference.

— Nuhgehall Shivappa, former member of Parliament, died. He was 54. Mr. Shivappa, who was suffering from diabetes was a member of the Lok Sabha between 1967 to 1977. He represented the Hassan constituency Mr. Shivappa was also a member of the AICC (I) and KPCC (I) executive.

— Seven people were killed and three injured when two trucks collided near Haveri on the Bangalore-Pune highway.

9 B.P. Kaushik, music producer in All India Radio for 22 years, died.

— An-eight member Assam Janata Dal Ministry headed by Jogendranath Hazarika was sworn-in at Dispur L.P. Singh Governor of North-Eastern States, administered the oath. This was the first Assam Ministry formed by a regional party. The party consists of MLAs who resigned from the Janata party. On September 17 the Cabinet was expanded when oath of office and secrecy was administered to six more Ministers.

— Five people were drowned at Gannavaram in Konaseema area of east Godavari district in the Vasistha, a tributary of the Godavari.

September 8 Seven persons, including the driver were killed when the Madhya Pradesh state transport Delhi-Gwalior bus dashed against a truck between Mathura and Agra.

9 The two-day national convention of the Congress for Democracy (Secular) concluded with the firm resolve to wage a determined struggle against the twin dangers of communalism and authoritarianism and to unite all democratic, secular, progressive, anti-imperialist forces for the purpose.

10 Five persons were killed and four sustained burns in a devastating fire which broke out in a cosmetic factory in Hanumatal area (Jabalpur).

— Gujaral Government announced the appointment of a one-man commission headed by B K. Mehta of the Gujarat High Court to enquire into the Machu dam disaster which took place on August 11 and caused heavy loss to life, property and crops in Morvi. The Commission has been asked to submit its report within six months.

— The Haryana PWD and Social Welfare Minister Mehr Singh Rathi, tendered his resignation from the State cabinet as his demand for the removal of the Vice-Chancellor of Maharshi Dayanand University in Rohtak had not been met.

— The Indian Yachting team recorded its best performance at a world event by winning the "overseas championship held at Sligo, Ireland recently. (India thus won the "Nassan CONCH", a prestigious trophy).

— P. C. Sethi and Govind Narain Singh, both former Chief Ministers of Madhya Pradesh, have announced their resignation from the membership of the Congress alongwith 14 district presidents, two general Secretaries and the Youth wing of Congress. The leaders decided to join the Congress (I) in a resolutions passed by them. Govind Narain Singh while resigning from the Congress has decided to remain independen but to work for the success of the Congress (I) in the State.

11 Chief Election Commissioner, S. L. Shakdher, turned down the plea of Janata-S Chairman Raj Narain for the freezing of the "Haldhar" election symbol in the coming Lok Sabha poll. Raj Narain's main plea being that until the main dispute is finally disposed off the "Haldhar" symbol should be frozen.

— Former Union Public Service Commission Chairman, A. R. Kidwai has been appointed Governor of Bihar in succession to Jagannath Kaushal, who resigned two months ago—Dr. Kidwai was sworn—in on September 20.

— Mrs. Kusum, eldest daughter of Lal Bahadur Shastri, died. She was 48.

September 11 The National Cadet Corps Girls expedition team has climbed the 7,122 metre (23,360 ft) Trishul peak. The leader of the expedition, Colonel Jagjit Singh, accompained by Sgt. Maj Instructor Miss Arati De, SMI Swapna Chaudhary, both from West Bengal, Under Officer Archana Bhattacharjie and Under-Officer Dhanmaya Chetri, both from Assam, and Naib Subedar Cheering the peak Norbu and a wireders operator reached.

— Union Government issued a notification bringing into effect its decision to reduce excise duty on kerosene and high speed diesel oil by seven paise per litre.

— Veteran Congress leader and former Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh D.P. Mishra resigned from the Congress Party. In his letter to AICC Secretary, D.P. Mishra expressed his unhappiness over the party's alliance with the Janata (S) and decision of the party to join the Charan Singh Ministry.

12 Chief Election Commissioner held consultations with six national parties and 12 regional parties on the measures to be taken for the smooth conduct of Lok Sabha poll.

— Devaraj Urs was declared elected unanimously President of the Indian National Congress amid scenes of wild enthusiasm at the AICC. The majority at the session favoured going to the polls in alliance with Janata (S) and other like-minded parties.

— An estimated 13,000 technicians and workers of the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) began an indefinite strike. Barring the Western region, the strike involving refinery, pipeline and marketing divisions was nearly total in the remaining Eastern, Northern and Southern region. IOC control's 66 per cent marketing of petroleum products. The Strike ended on 14th September on the basis of an understanding reached between the leaders of the nine unions sponsoring the strike and the Petroleum Minister, A Bala Pajanor. As per the understanding the IOC staff will get a higher rate of variable dearness allowance, Another distinct gain for the staff is that it will enjoy a higher ceiling range.

— The Maharashtra Minister of State for Finance, Mrs. Shanti Naik, quit the Progressive Democratic Front Ministry, as required by Chief Minister Sharad Pawar. Mrs. Naik had walked out of the Janata Party and joined the Janata-S. The Janata Party has asked the Chief Minister for her removal from the Government.

— Muchkund Dube, who at present heads the United Nations and Conference Division of the Ministry of External Affairs has been appointed India's next High Commissioner to Bangladesh.

— The Reserve Bank of India, in order to further tighten its credit control measures, has announced drastic increases in the lending and interest rates which will be effective from 13th Sept. The ceiling rates on short-period advances have been raised by 3% and interest rates on advances against-commodities subject to selective credit control will not be less than 18%. The interest rates on saving deposits go up from 4.5% and the fixed deposits for more than five years, from 9% to 10%.

September 12 The Union Government issued an order under the Essential Commodities Act fixing the ex-factory and maximum retail prices of sugar in various Zones in the Country. The order, called the Sugar (Price Control) order 1979, has been issued in persuance of the Cabinet decision of September 10 to arrest the spurt in sugar prices and to make sugar available to the consumers at a reasonable price. Under the order also fixed the maximum retails prices for various States and Union Territories ranging between Rs. 2.90 and 3.00 per Kg.

13 The posts and Telegraph Department issued a special 30-paise postage stamp to commemorate the 50th anniversary of martyrdom of noted revolutionary, Jatindra Nath Das.

14 The entire Jama Masjid (Delhi) area was put under a 36-hour curfew after at least 20 persons were injured in a clash between the majority and minority group in Gali Gulain. The curfew was lifted on September 19.

— Former Union Commerce Minister Mohan Dharia resigned from the Janata Party following failure of his efforts to eliminate "ghatakwad" (groupism) and dual membership.

— The Government accepted the findings and observations of the Gupta Commission of inquiry into the Maruti affairs and asked the concerned authorities to initiate investigation and departmental and adminisrtative action.

— Hindi film producer G. P. Sippy, announced in Bombay the formation of a new political party, National Party of India, to fight against all professional politicians. He said that it will not be a party of film folks but of crusaders aiming to throw professional politicians out of public life.

— President gave his assent to Tamil Nadu Forest (Amendment) Bill 1979, as passed by the State Legislature. The Bill seeks to check smuggling of scheduled timber from forests in the State.

15 B. P. Maurya, a former Union Minister and member of the ruling Janata Party-S, announced his decision to contest against Congress-I leader Indira Gandhi.

— British High Commissioner, John Thomson, presented in Ahmedabad relief, supplies from Britain for the victims of the recent flood havoc and dam disaster in Morvi (Gujarat). The supplies consist of 10,000 blankets and 235 rolls of polythene sheeting.

September 15 11 women were drowned when a boat capsized in the river Tapti near Dumas, 16 km. from Surat.

— Congress (I) and DMK surprised everyone by reaching an agreement in quick time on the 40 Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry seats for the mid-term Lok Sabha elections. Congress (I) will, under the agreement contest 23 seats including Pondicherry's single seat. DMK and its allies will contest the remaining 17 seats.

— Former President V. V. Giri announced the formation of the "Political Wing" of the Labour Party of India, which he had set up on October 2, 1979 to fight mid-term poll to the Lok Sabha.

— Mrs. Vidyavati Devi, wife of Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Banarri Das, died.

16 Amir Rahimutullah founder of the Fertilizer Association of India (FAI) died. He was 62.

— Calcutta's glamour club Mohan Bagan retained the 1979 Indian Footwall Association shield by virtue of their solitary goal victory over traditional rivals East Bengal. With this win, Mohan Bagan has won the shield for the 13th time.

— The first Cricket test between India and Australia ended in a draw when the match was abandoned 90 minutes before the scheduled draw of stumps on the final day on account of a sharp spell of rain which interrupted play half an hour before tea interval.

— Tomo Riba, leader of the United People's Party, was invited by the Lt. Governor to form an alternative Government in Arunachal Pradesh. The resignation of Thungon Ministry was already accepted.

17 Congress (I) leader Kumar Jha, Member of the Bihar Legislature Assembly, died. He was 67.

— M.R. Radha, well known Tamil stage and film actor, died. Radha 71, had teamed with the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, M.G. Ramachandran, in many films, until 1966, when he was sentenced to five years imprisonment for inflicting bullet injuries on Mr. Ramachandran. Radha had won honours for being the best stage actor in 1962 and was awarded the title of "Kalaimamani" by Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Mandrum. About 10 of his plays were handed by the State Government because of objectionable script hurting the feelings and sentiments of a section of Public.

— R.Gundu Rao, a trusted lieutenant of Indira Gandhi and for over a decade one of the closest associate of Devaraj Urs, until their recent break, was unanimously elected leader of the Congress-I legislature party of Karnataka.

September 17 The Russian Prime Minister, Alexi Kosygin, in a brief stopover at Bombay airport on his way to Moscow, had a discussion with the External Affairs Minister, S.N. Mishra.

— Supreme Court dismissed a writ petition seeking to prohibit the Union Government and the Chief Election Commissioner from the holding the elections unless they are made "expenseless" from every candidate. Chief Justice Y.V. Chandrachud and Justice N.L. Untwalia gave the order when the petition filed by Charan Lal Sahu came up before them.

18 Aziz-ul-Shafi, an authority on Muslim personal law, died. He was 80. Mr. Shafi was special judge (honorary) in Delhi on Muslim personal law and continued in this position until his last days.

— Chand Ram, former Union Minister of Transport and Shipping resigned from the Janata Party. Chand Ram, a Harijan leader of Haryana, who was Chairman of the Janata State Unit at the time of 1977 elections, has put in his resignation from the national executive of the party, its panel to select candidates for Lok Sabha elections and its primary membership. Chand Ram joined Janata (S) on September 19 and on September 20 he was elected leader of the Haryana Janata (S) legislature Party. But as he is not an MLA, he will be the leader outside the State Assembly.

— Five-member Arunachal Pradesh Ministry headed by the former opposition leader in the legislative Assembly, Tomo Riba was sworn-in at Itanagar. Apart from Mr. Riba, the other Ministers sworn-in were Sobeng Tayang, Padi Yubbe, Noksam Boham and Kama Wanchu.

— Fourteen pilgrims were killed and 25 injured when a bus carrying them to Badrinath fell into the Alaknanda river at a place 7km from Srinagar in Garhwal district. The bus had about 40 passengers, most of them from West Bengal and Orissa.

— Three Indian Photographers were honoured by the Federation International de 'Art Photographique of Switzerland, the only international photographic institution recognised by UNESCO. They were Mrs. Chitrangada Sharma of Delhi, B.S. Sodhi of Ambala and Sharad Devare of Bombay, according to a cable received by New Delhi's Foto Arte Group from the Federation.

19 The dollar became costlier as the Reserve Bank revised the dollar buying rate to Rs. 8 and selling rate to Rs. 8.40 raising the value of the dollar by 20 paise.

— King Birendra of Nepal accompanied by Queen Aishwarya, arrived in New Delhi on a six-day State visit for vide ranging talks with Indian leaders, on bilateral matters and regional questions. King's delegation included Foreign Minister K.B. Sahi on 20th September King Birendra of Nepal and Prime Minister Charan Singh had a 75-minute talk in the course of which they discussed not only bilateral relations but also the situation in the Sub-continent and the region. Later in the night President N. Sanjiva Reddy hosted a banquet in honour of the king.

September 19 The Maharashtra Government has liberalized its prohibition policy by drastically reducing the number of dry days in a year. Henceforth liquor shops will be closed only once a week under the shops and Establishment Act. Apart from the weekly offs, the Government has provided only seven dry days in a year. Hithert to the State had there dry days in a week besides the worker's pay day and on all national occasions.

— Shantilal A. Shah, of Gujarat Samacher, was elected President, K.L. Sarker of Hindustan Standard, Deputy President and Mammen Verghese of Malayala Manorama, Vice-President and Ramesh Chandra Jain of Dinman, honorary Secretary of the "Indian and Eastern Newspaper Society (IENS).

— Supreme Court dismissed an application filed by K.L. Gupta, a former Janata member of Parliament, asking for the stay of the auction of 37 pieces of Nizam jewellery.

— The West Bengal Congress faced an organizational crisis following the exodus of a large number of senior leaders including MPs, MLAs and AICC members from the Party. Although the move was expected since the "political rehabilitation" of Mrs. Gandhi, the resignation came as a shock to most of the WBPCC leaders. Among those who resigned were : Debi Prasad Chattopadhaya, Bholanath Sen, Apurbalal Mazumdar and Atish Sinha. They told a press conference that they were resigning in protest against the party's decision to form an electoral alliance with the CPI (M) in the name of left and Democratic Unity. They were also angry over the Bangalore AICC's dicision to Surrender the leadership of Congress to two non-Congressmen—Charan Singh and Devaraj Urs.

20 Akbar Mirza Khaleeli was appointed Ambassador of India to Iran.

— In a meeting of "Like minded" parties Mohan Dharia was made, convener of the anti-Jan Sangh front of left and democratic forces in Maharashtra.

— India's skipper Sunil Gavaskar joined the select band of 14 world cricketers who have scored more than 5,000 runs in tests.

— J.C. Luthra, a veteran educationist and scientist, died. He was 91. He retired as Principal of the Punjab Agricultural College, Lyallpur, and later served as Agricultural Educational Adviser to the Government of India. He also worked as a Principal of the Agricultural college of Varanasi.

September 20 S. Krishnamurthy, 55, Chief Sub-Editor, the Statesman, New Delhi died. Before joining the Statesman in 1949, he had worked in the Dawn and the Indian News Chronicle.

— V.J. Ram has been appointed as Chief of the social development division of ESCAP (Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific) effective from September 1. A career international civil servant, Mr. Ram has been with the United Nations in various capacities for the past 23 years. Mr. Ram joined the UN in 1957 and worked for nine years as social affairs officer in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs at its Headquarters in New York.

21 Rohtak University Vice-Chancellor Hardwari Lal has been suspended following the dismissal of Hardwari Lal's writ petition by the Punjab and Haryana High Court.

— The Supreme Court postponed indefinitely the auction of 37 jewels belonging to the Nizam Trust. This was after the Additional Solicitor-General's statement in the Court that the Cabinet has decided to retain the Nizam's jewel within the country as art treasures.

— A woman and her two daughters died when a devastating fire swept through the international wing of Bombay airport. All domestic and international flights were suspended Delhi, Ahmedabad and Karachi airports were alerted to handle Bombay's nornad traffic. Indian Airlines cancelled all its flights between Delhi and Bombay following the closure of the airport.

— Bhajan Lal, Chief Minister of Haryana admitted that four of the 35 cases against Bansi Lal, former Defence Minister, and his family have been withdrawn by the Haryana Government.

22 B.K. Karanjia, journalist has been nominated by the President as Chairman of the All India Advisory Panel for recommending films to be entered by India in film festivals abroad for 1979-80. The other members of the panel are B. Bhaktavatsalam, president of the South Indian Film Chamber of Commerce, Firoze Rangoonwala, film critic, B.R. Chopra, producer director, Tarun Mazumdar, Bengali film director, G. Arvindan, Malayalam film director and R. Raina, Director of Film Festivals, who is member secretary.

— The Centre issued an order asking all State Governments to impose restrictions on holding of "Shakhas" (drills) by RSS volunteers in public places and school compounds "in the interest of communal harmony."

— Five persons, including a woman, were killed and two injured when a lorry hit them at Kanakkanpatti, 105 km from Madurai.

— Prakash Padukone of India won the men's singles title of the first Open Badminton Tournament beating Morton Frost Hansen of Denmark 15-4, 15-11 in the final at the Royal Albert Hall in London. Padukone's win was the second major triumph of his career. Last year he won the men's title in the commonwealth games at Edmonton, Canada.

September 22 President appointed Amarendra Nath Sen, a judge of the Calcutta High Court, Chief Justice of the Court from 26th December.

— V.K. Ahuja, India's Ambassador to Iran, has been appointed Ambassador to Japan.

23 14-member Assam Janata Dal Ministry was expanded with the addition of three parliamentary secretaries. The eight-member Hazarika Ministry which assumed office on September 9 was expanded earlier on September 17 by including Six Ministers, three of Cabinet rank and three Ministers of State.

— A honorary degree of Directorate of Literature was conferred upon S.C. Dutta, former hony. General Secretary of the Indian Adult Education Association by the Keinyung University, Republic of Korea, at a special ceremony at Dnegue, near Seoul recently.

— Maulana Syed Abul Ala Mauboodi founder of Jamait-e-Islami passed away.

— A woman and five children were killed in a house collapse at Sirner in Ambad taluka in Aurangabad.

24 Disorderly behaviour by the former Chief Minister of Haryana, Devi Lal and three other Janata (S) members for the rest of the session marked the stormy beginning of the long-waited meeting of the Haryana Assembly.

— The Government appointed U.N. Baruah, Deputy Director-General of All India Radio as Director-General.

— The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) has approved a loan of $ 50 million for the development of the Bhima Command area in Maharashtra. Carrying one percent service Charge per annum, a ten-year grace period and a 50-year maturity, the loan will support, for a five year period (1979-84), an on-going development programme in Maharashtra.

— K.S. Rajan, who went on leave in protest against his summary removal from Chairmanship of the Railway Board, has been appointed Secretary and Director-General for Technical Development in the Ministry of Industry.

— Noted film maker A.K. Nadiawala died. He produced over 35 films, notable among which were "Taj Mahal", "Patthar ke Sanam", "Ghar Sansar" and "Rampur Ka Laxman".

September 24 Punjab Congress joined the Congress (I) almost en bloc. Mohinder Singh Gill, PCC President, Umrao Singh, leader of the party in the Assembly and other Senior party leaders announced their decision to join the Congress (I).

— Second Cricket test match played in Bangalore between India and Australia ended in a draw due to a heavy shower which washed out all chances of play.

— Six persons were killed in a explosion at an fireworks godown in the Naya Bazar area in Dhanbad.

— The Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, a partner of the Janata (S)-led caretaker Government at the Centre, entered into an alliance with the Janata Party for the coming Lok Sabha elections. The agreement between the two parties was announced by the ADMK leader and Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.G. Ramachandran, after hour-long discussion with the former Prime Minister Morarji Desai and the Janata President, Chandra Shekhar.

— The Election Commission gave Janata (S) led by Raj Narain, recognition as a national party and allotted to it the symbol of a "farmer ploughing a field", for the Lok Sabha election. After hearing the counsel for both Janata (S) and the Janata Party, the Commission rejected the plea of Raj Narain for freezing the symbol of Haldar within wheel. Thus Janata Party led by Chandra Shekhar will continue to use this symbol.

— Production units at various centres of oil and Natural Gas Commission resumed work after the employees called off strike. The worst-effected in the strike by 25,000 employees of ONGC was the Western region which was losing at the rate of 80,000 barrels of crude a day since strike. The strike was called off after three days following an agreement between the representative of the striking employees and the management over security measures at Sibsagar in Assam. Lack of security measures resulting in assault on Several ONGC employees at Sibsagar had been the only issue of the strike, which, if prolonged, would have seriously disrupted oil and Gas production.

— Siddhartha Shankar Ray, former Chief Minister of West Bengal, resigned from Congress (U).

— The Union Government sanctioned an additional instalment of dearness allowance to its employees to compensate for the price rise. The amount will be paid in cash from August 1. It would cost the exchequer Rs. 36 crores in the current financial year.

26 Amidst noisy scenes and a walk-out the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly passed the Anti-Defection Bill which will deprive the legislator of his membership if he defects.

— Umashankar Joshi has been unanimously elected the Chancellor of the Visvabharati University.

September 26 Charan Singh launched a new party, the Lok Dal, comprising his Janata (S) headed by Raj Narain, the Socialist group of Madhu Limaye and George Fernandes and the Orissa group led by Biju Patnaik. Prime Minister, Charan Singh, after initial hesitation, also became President of the new party and appointed Raj Narain its "working President."

— The Iranian authorities ordered the expulsion of an Indian journalist Ramachandra Mohan, Teheran correspondent of the Wall Street Journal. According to official sources, Mr. Mohan had violated press regulations covering foreign journalists. Mr. Mohan was the 18th foreign journalist to be expelled since the February revolution.

27 Jagdev Singh Talwandi, President of the ruling Shiromani Akali Dal and Gurcharan Singh Tohra, President of the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee resigned from their posts and demanded resignation of the Punjab Chief Minister, Prakash Singh Badal, who leads a rival faction. These developments mark the culmination of the crisis facing the party since the decision of the Akali Dal to support the Charan Singh Ministry for which the Chief Minister, Mr. Badal had openly expressed his dissent and favoured continuation of alliance with the Janata Party. Mr. Talwandi and Mr. Tohra also surrendered their official cars. In a seven-page letter to the Jathedars of the Akal Takht Kesgarh Sahib (Anandpur Sahib) and head priest of Amritsar's Golden Temple, they accused Mr. Badal of corruption, misuse of official machinery and nepotism. They also accused him of playing into the hands of "communal Jana Sangh" to divide the Panth and keep himself in the saddle.

28 Darshan Singh Sodhi, the grand old man of Delhi hockey, died at his residence at Anandpur Sahib (Punjab). He was 60. Sodhi, a former State Goalkeeper and Captain, later became synonymous with the game in the Capital and served the Delhi Hockey Association in various capacities.

— The Gujarat Assembly passed an official bill prohibiting slaughter of cows progeny aged upto 15 years.

— India and the United States signed an agreement for $ 22 million (Rs. 17.6 crore) aid for India's fertiliser sector. The loan will be used to import chemical fertilisers to sustain the greater consumption by farmers in their bid to raise agricultural production. Repayable in 40 years, with a 10-year grace period, the loan will carry an interest of two percent during the grace period and three percent thereafter.

— The President has appointed Justice Muhammod Kassim Muhammod Ismail, a judge of the Madras High Court, as the Chief Justice of that High Court with effect from November 6.

— Prithivi Raj Sood, till recently Counsellor in the Indian Embassy in Paris, has been appointed Ambassador to Laos in succession to E.A. Srinivasan, and Virendra Pal Singh, India's Consul-

General in Sydney, has been appointed Ambassador to Conakry in succession to Mrs. Usha Nath.

September 28 Begum Abida Ahmed, widow of former President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed joined the Congress I.

— Congress President, Devaraj Urs told newsmen that Congress working Committee had decided that the party will fight the ensuing Lok Sabha election on its own symbol but on the basis of a joint menifesto with its alliance partner Lok Dal.

— India was elected to the six member Management board of the International Coffee Organisation for 1979-80

— Jammu and Kashmir Anti-Defection Bill passed by both the Houses of the Legislature, became law after having received the assent of the Governor and published in the Gazette.

30 External Affairs Minister S.N. Mishra left for New York to lead the Indian delegation to the current session of the United Nations General Assembly. He was accompanied by Foreign Secretary Jagat Mehta.

— P.A. Chacko, one of the founder-leader of the Communist movement in Kerala, died. He was 79.

October 1 Chandra Singh Garhwali, 95, revolutionary and freedom fighter, who was the first to rebel against the British rule from within the British Indian army, died.

— A nine-member Indian delegation led by Hari Shankar Singhania, President of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) left for Abu Dhabi to take part in the second meeting of Indo-Arab Joint Business Council.

— Poland agreed to supply three units of 60 MW power sets to be erected at the Bokaro steel Plant for captive use at a cost of about Rs. 76 crores.

— P.V.Rajamanner, former Chief Justice of the Madras High Court, died. He was 78. Mr. Rajamannar was well known for his erudition in law and literature. A prolific writer and playwright in Telugu, Mr. Rajamannar was the author of several mono-act plays in Telugu. He was the first Indian Chief Justice of the Madras High Court after independence and occupied that position for 15 years during what is called its golden era. Besides being Chairman of the Fourth Finance Commission, Mr. Rajamannar had acted as the sole arbitrator of the Damodar Valley Corporation and also arbitrated in several important disputes concerning the Union and the State Governments. He was also the Chairman of the Sangeet Natak Akademy for 10 years.

October 1 Three new Ministers were sworn-in and four Ministers of State were elevated to Cabinet rank by the Andhra Pradesh Governor. The new Ministers were Mrs. B. Sarojini Pulla Reddy, K.Rosiah and G.Sreeamulu Naidu, Ministers promoted to Cabinet rank were N.Bhaskara Rao, A.Vengala Reddy, Nizam Vali and Ahmed Sherif. The strength of the Cabinet headed by M.Chenna Reddy was now raised to 28.

— Twenty-four people, including 17 children and four women were killed in a stampede soon after Dussehra Celebrations in Moradabad. The local authorities said it all began when some men started harassing women on their way back from the Dussehra celebrations. There was panic all around as the women started fleeing resulting in the stampede. According to information received on 2nd October death toll rose to 26 with two more deaths in hospital.

2 It was a sad Gandhi Jayanti when the samadhi of Mahatma Gandhi, the apostle of peace, became the scence of ugly incidents as Raj Narain performed his"self purification yajna" with holy "Ganga Jal" amidst violent protests by those who called it a "gimmick". Never before in the last three decades has such violence been witnessed at the resting place of the apostle of non-violence. In a bizzare scuffle between rival political factions, claiming to preserve its sanctity, the samadhi complex was polluted by violence and blood stains.

3 The Karnataka Chief Minister, Devaraj Urs expanded his 19-member Ministry by adding seven more Ministers and elevating the Minister of State for Youth Services, K.H.Srinivasa to Cabinet rank. Three former Ministers in the Urs Ministry-Dr. Devendrapa Ghalappa and Nazeer Ahmed Siddique-have been brought back. All the three will be Cabinet Ministers. The remaining four-Venkappa Patar, Sadav Rao Seshar Chintala, Basan Gouda Veeranna Gouda Janali and Mahadevappa Shivappa will be Ministers of State.

— A five-member delegation of Chinese journalists arrived on a two-week visit to India.

— Four men were killed and 19, including two policemen and a member of the National Volunteer Force were injured when police fired 47 rounds to disperse two groups of port workers who clashed in strike-bound Calcutta port area.

— Santosh Nath former General Manager of the Hindustan Times died. He was Manager of the Statesman before joining Hindustan Times. He specialized in industrial relations and was Industrial Executive of Delhi Cloth Mills from 1945 to 1960. In 1960, Santosh Nath took over as secretary of the Punjab, Haryana and Delhi Chamber of Commerce and Industry and held that post till 1967.

4 Election Commission released a 23-point model code of conduct for the political parties to be observed in the ensuing mid-term elections.

October 4 Former Deputy Inspector General of Delhi Police, P.S. Bhinder and seven other police personnel were acquitted of the charge of having murdered notorious dacoit Sunder by forcibly drowning him in the Yamuna (in Delhi) on the night of November 24, 1976. Session Judge J.D.Jain however held five Delhi policemen, who were escorting Sunder in a van that night guilty of conspiring to murder him.

— Laxmiprasad M. Bharot, joint general manager of the Janmabhoomi Group of newspapers, died. He was 66.

— S. C. Chhabra was appointed as the President of the New Delhi Municipal Committee for a second term along with a new twelve-member team.

— Surbir Jit Singh Chhatwal was appointed Ambassador of India to Kuwait.

— Veteran cricketer Natwarsingji of Porbandar, who led India against the MCC in England in 1932, died. He was 79. Natwarsinghji had started the Duleep school of cricket in Porbandar.

5 Bansi Lal, former Union Defence Minister who was expelled after the last general elections, was admitted to the Congress (I). He returned to the Party holding the same position in its various forums as he enjoyed before his expulsion.

— D. Gnanasigamoni, a member of the Tamil Nadu State Assembly belonging to the CPI-M, died. He was 68.

— Five people were killed and 17 injured when a goods train and a Palwal shuttle collided.

— G. S. Mani (68), CPI (M) member of the Tamil Nadu Assembly, died.

— The Nagaland Chief Minister Mr. Vizol dropped from his Ministry S. C. Jamir, Deputy Chief Minister and recommended to the Governor his dismissal from the Cabinet. Mr. Vizol took the action in the absence of any response from S. C. Jamir, whom he had advised to resign from the Ministry.

— The President signed an Ordinance empowering the Union and the State Governments to detain a person upto a maximum period of six months for blackmarketing in and/or hoarding essential commodities. In order to prevent misuse of the Ordinance, the detention order, passed by the District Magistrate or the Commissioner of Police will ordinarily be valid by 12 days and has to be confirmed by the State Government within this period. A vital safeguard is that nobody can be kept under detention for more than two months without the approval of an advisory board. Such a board would be constituted by the Central and the State Governments in accordance with the recommendations of the Chief Justice of the appropriate high court. The Board will be presided over by a sitting judge of the High Court and assisted by not less than two other retired or serving high court judges.

October 6 C. B. I. charge-sheeted the leader of the banned Mizo National Front, Laldenga, his son David and Bhagwan Din, a Member of the Rajya Sabha for entering into a criminal conspiracy to procure an Indian passport on forged documents.

— India was elected to the 40-member executive council of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) of the 18th Congress as well as to the 35-Member consultative Council for Postal Studies, another important organ of the UPU by securing more votes than any other developing country. One hundred UPU and fifty-nine countries are represented in UPU.

— Mahamahopadhyaya Datto Vaman Potdar, the illustrious Sanskrit Scholar, Marathi historian and educationist or Maharashtra, died at the age of 90.

— Nineteen rebel commandos belonging to the Mizo National Front made a sensational escape from Turial jail, 15 km from Aizawl, through a tunel they dug. One of the escapees was arrested.

— One person was killed and 25 other were injured when a Haryana roadways bus collided with a tractor.

— The Union Government elevated G. H. Vyas, Deputy Director-General of Doordarshan to the office of the Director-General.

— The three Sikh head priests to whom the Akali Dal's faction fight had been referred coopted two other jathedars to become the "Panj Piaras", and in this capacity gave a 10-point verdict which amounted to a restoration of the status quo-ante. Under the verdict, Jagdev Singh Talwandi will continue to be party president until after the Lok Sabha elections and Gurcharan Singh Tohra will remain president of the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee. All Akali legislators will have to continue to support the Chief Minister, Prakash Singh Badal. Mr. Talwandi and Mr. Tohra were directed to withdraw their resignations and the separate meetings called for October 10 by the rival factions to elect a new party chief in place of Mr. Talwandi were cancelled. The "Panj Piaras" also revoked all disciplinary actions taken before Mr. Talwandi and Mr. Tohra resigned. A committee headed by Sant Harchand Singh Longowal was formed to decide the question of Akali Dal's alliance with other parties and distribution of party tickets and other electoral matters.

7 India notched up a spectacular 153-run victory with 14 minutes plus 20 mandatory overs to spare in the third Cricket Test against Australia in Kanpur.

October 7 The Kerala Chief Minister, P.K. Vasudevan Nair, submitted the resignation of his Ministry as the partners in the ruling Front Ministry could not arrive at a consensus on the Land Gift Validation Bill, due to come up before the Assembly.

8 Lok Nayak, Jayaprakash Narayan, 76, the author of "the total revolution" died. He breathed his last peacefully at his Kadam Kuan residence in central Patna. Flags flew at half mast on public buildings, national leaders paid their tributes and a seven-day state mourning was ordered to pay homage to Jayaprakash Narayan. The departed leader was given a State funeral at Bansghat on the bank of Ganga on 9th October.

9 An eight-week Indian trade fair opened in Tokyo. The exhibits include manufactured goods such as auto ancillaries, electronic components and equipments and scientific instruments.

— Food and Agricultural Organisation decided to present Jayaprakash Narayan "(Posthumously) the Agricola Medal with his" portrait on its face in recognition of his monumental contribution towards the promotion of the Antyodaya concept and voluntary efforts in rural development.

— Orissa Chief Minister Nilmony Routray and Sharad Kumar Kar, former MP were nominated to the National Executive of the Lok Dal.

— The Supreme Court ordered a general stay execution of all death sentences throughout the Country until further orders. The order was passed as an interim measure pending final hearing and disposal of a writ petition challenging the constitutional validity of capital sentence provided for under Section 302 of the Indian Penal Code.

10 According to an official release, the rate of interest on deposits under the Compulsory Deposit (Income-Tax Payers) Scheme, 1974, has been raised with effect from October 1.

— Five policemen found guilty of criminal conspiracy to murder notorious dacoit Sunder were sentenced to four years of rigorous imprisonment each by the session judge, J.D. Jain. The five accused were also sentenced to pay fine. Rohtas Singh and Harkesh, inspectors, and R.P. Gautam and Dharam Pal, Sub inspectors, were ordered to pay a fine of Rs. 2000 each. Parsu Ram, constable was sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 1000. In case of default they were ordered to undergo rigorous imprisonment for another six months, out of the fine it received Rs. 6000 were ordered to be given to Sunder's widow and children.

— The Gujarat Chief Minister, Babubhai Patel, told the President that his Government would not use the Ordinance providing for preventive detention of economic offenders. This was the first Janata ruled State to do so.

October 10 The Kerala Governor, Mrs. Jyothi Venkatachellum, accepted the offer of C.H. Mohammed Koya of the Muslim League to form a Government with the participation of PSP and the National Democratic party outside support from the Congress I, two factions of the Kerala Congress and Janata Party.

— The Madras High Court held that the appointment of Charan Singh as Prime Minister was valid, observing that if he had faced or lost a vote of confidence in the Lok Sabha and then resigned, the President could still have asked him to continue as caretaker Prime Minister.

11 "Delhi Bandh" call given by various trade Union Organisations in support of the striking mill workers had little impact as essential services including transport, electricity, water and hospitals as well as most markets functioned normally. The bandh was mostly peaceful except some stray incidents in West and North Delhi.

— Four persons were killed and at least 30 injured, five seriously under the roof of an underground water reservoir of the Delhi Water supply and Sewage Disposal Undertaking under construction in Raghubir Nagar in West Delhi collapsed.

— The World Bank decided to advance a Rs. 3 crore loan to the Madhya Pradesh Government for building six cold storages for potatoes.

12 An agreement was signed between India and West Germany according to which West Germany will extend to India financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 136.3 crores (DM 290 million) in 1979-80.

— Bihar Chief Minister Ram Sundar Das sent to President a telegram protesting against the promulgation of Preventive Detention Ordinance to deal with economic offenders and pleaded the Bihar Government's inability to enforce it.

— C.H. Mohammed Koya became the first member of the Muslim League in independent India to become the Chief Minister of a State (Kerala) when he was administered the oath of office and secrecy by the Kerala Governor. Two others, N K. Balakrishnan of the PSP and N. Bhaskaran Nair of the National Democratic Party, Political wing of the Nair Service Society, were sworn-in as Ministers.

— Egypt suspended all Air-India flights to Cairo followiug disagreement on bilateral aviation arrangements. On October 15 Egypt also denied Air India the right of technical landing in violation of international agreement.

— Former Union Railway Minister Ram Subhag Singh resigned from the Indian National Congress headed by Devraj Urs.

October 12 Sant Baba Harnam Singh, 75, Chief of the Gurudwara Langer Saheb, died of blood cancer.

13 The 27-day old strike by shore workers of the Calcutta port was called off.

— Sikkim's former Chief Minister, Kazi Lhendup Dorji, was defeated in the Djonger Assembly Constituency. The 77 year-old Kazi suffered the reverse at the hands of Athup Lepcha, a young former Government servant fielded by the Sikkim Janata Parishad.

14 The Sikkim Janata Parishad was voted to power with a precarious mojority in the second general election to the 32-member Sikkim Assembly which saw the eclipse of the former ruling Janata Party as well as two other national parties in the State with results from all 31 Constituences having been declared the Parishad finished with a tally of 17 seats, including an independent supported by it, followed by the Sikkim Congress (Revolutionary) with 11 and Sikkim Prajatantra Congress, an affiliate of the Congress (I) with three.

15 Barring seven States namely, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu Gujarat, Haryana, Rajasthan, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh, most of the other states agreed to enforce the Preventive Detention Ordinance.

— Curfew was imposed throughout the walled city of Ahmedabad as the rioting spread.

— K.K. Venugopal, Additional Solicitor-General, stated before the Supreme Court that the Union Government has decided to notify 37 items of the Nizam's jewellery as "art treasure" and not to permit export of these items outside the country after making suitable modification in the law.

16 A.H. Besterwitch, Revolutionary Socialist Party leader and a member of the West Bengal Assembly since 1962, died.

— K. Anki Reddy, member of the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly from Ktickuntla, died.

— Mrs. Suniti Bala Ghose, wife of Late Dharmdas Ghose, died at Madhupur, West Bengal at the age of 79. She was a well known social worker. The Youngest daughter of the Raja of Kakina, she followed the philanthropic traditions of her family and built the Biram Ashram (women's home) at Madhupur where she worked for 30 years.

— Pollice officers patrolling the riot-torn city of Ahmedabad were instructed to shoot at sight persons indulging in looting, arson and physical assault.

17 The 1979 Noble Peace Prize was awarded to Mother Teresa, an Albanian-born nun, for dedicating her life to the destitutes of

Calcutta. 69 year old Mother Teresa is the first Yogoslav born and the first citizen of India to win the peace prize since it was instituted in 1901. She is the sixth woman to win the prize.

October 17 Dev Anand was unanimously elected President of the National Party. G.P. Sippy and Shree Ram Bohra were elected Vice-Presidents of the Party.

— Prem Sukh Executive Councillor (Revenue) Delhi died. He was 63.

— Six men, including a police sub-inspector, were killed in a day long violence in Faridabad when the recently-formed Haryana Labour Union and Marxist Centre of Indian Trade Union faced opposition from other Unions in enforcing a bandh. On October 18, Magisterial Probe was ordered.

18 The 114-day old strike in the DCM group of mills was called off following an agreement between Union leaders and the management. Workers in two other textile mills employing 8,000 workers had a few days ago called off their strike but the DCM group with 14,000 workers was the longest to hold out.

— Border Security Force Jawans took over the camp and the armoury of the Tamil Nadu Special Police (4th Battalion) at Koval Pudur near Coimbatore in view of the strike by the Special Police. Meanwhile troops were alerted to stand by as the three day old agitation by policemen spread to new areas. On October 19, Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors in Tuticorin joined the police strike paralysing the working of police stations. On October 20, three of the five battalions of the special Police returned to duty in full strength as the State Police agitation entered the fifth day.

— The fourth cricket test between India and Australia, played in New Delhi, ended in a draw.

— An eight member Sikkim Janata Parishad Ministry, headed by Nar Bahadur Bhandari was sworn-in. With the formation of the Ministry, President's rule which was imposed in the State two months ago was lifted. The Ministry consists of young radicals in the age-group of 30-35. Mr. Bhandari, who is 39, is the oldest Member and the youngest is Sanchamau Limboo. Besides Mr. Bhandari, the three Nepali Ministers are: Sanchaman Limboo, Padam Bahadur Gurung and T. R. Sharma. The four Lepcha/Bhutia members are Sherab Palden, Atuk Lepcha, his holiness Lanchen Gonchen Rimpachhi and Samten Tshering Bhutia.

19 Twenty four persons were killed in a devastating fire emanating from a fire-cracker shop in one of the busiest areas in the Bangalore city, near the city market.

— The Union Finance Minister, H. N. Bahuguna, resigned from the Cabinet on demand by the Prime Minister, who earlier insisted on the merger of the CFD with the Lok Dal and found Mr. Bahuguna willing only for the continuation of the present alliance.

October 20 M. T. Raju (69), ICS, former Chief Secretary to the Government of Andhra Pradesh and a former member of the Lok Sabha died.

— President Sanjeeva Reddy approved the Contingency Fund of India (Amendment) Ordinance raising the limit of the fund to Rs. 150 crores from Rs. 50 crores.

21 Anil Agarwal, an Indian journalist in London, has been awarded FAO's A.H. Boerma award of $ 10,000 for focussing urgent public attention on the world food problem. The award was instituted in 1977 in the name of the former Director-General A.K. Boerma.

— Dr. L.C. Verman, a well known standardisation expert and a former Director General of the Indian Standards Institution died. He was 77. As a UN expert, he assisted a number of countries including Algeria, Iran, Indonesia, Korea and Thailand in developing their national standardisation programmes.

— Gurdev Singh Emergency excesses enquiry committee found former Punjab Chief Minister Zail Singh guilty of nepotism and jobbery during his tenure of office. The interim report which was placed before the State Assembly found Zail Singh unduly favoured his partymen and relatives and flouted all norms and indulged in illegal actions.

— The President awarded the police medal for gallantry to Mrs. Kiran Bedi, Deputy Commissioner of Police, New Delhi, for "exhibiting conspicuous courage and determination in controlling unruling demonstration at grave personal risk to her life during an Akali demonstration. T.R. Rajagopal, Director-General of Central Reserve Police was also awarded the President Police medal for gallantry for the second time.

— Telo Mascarenhas, 77, veteran Goan Freedom fighter and a poet-writer, died. Mr. Mascarenhas suffered imprisonment in Portugal following his active participation in the liberation struggle.

22 60,000-strong Railway Protection Force personnel were granted several benefits by Railways, which include—maximum one month's pay in lieu of work done on holidays, weekly off days for which compensatory offs could not be granted, increase of washing allowance from Rs. 3 to Rs. 10 per month, grant of night duty allowance at par with that of other railwaymen.

23 Two coaches of the Katwa-Barhara passenger train toppled into the Fabgu river from a railway bridge near Jangipur at 10.40 a. m. killing an unknown number of passengers.

24 An agreement was signed for a Narwegian grant to be utilised for projects and programmes and for the import of such

commodities as paper, fertilisers and fisheries equipment. The assistance agreement for Norwegian Kroner 106 million (Rs. 17.06 crores) is to be used during 1980.

October 24 Nilamoni Routrya's 12-member Lok Dal Ministry in Orissa was expanded to a 27-member set-up with the appointment of its new Ministers, four of them of Cabinet rank and 11 in the rank of Ministers of State. This was the largest Ministry the State has had since independence.

— Peter Lynn Sinai, officer on special duty in the External Affairs Ministry, has been appointed India's Ambassador to Iraq in succession to Dileep Shanker Rao Kamtakar. Mr. Kamtakar has been appointed Ambassador to Mexico in succession to Ashok Manalal Mehta.

— Purushottam Vinayak Dixit retired Chief Justice of the Madhya Pradesh High Court, has been appointed Chairman of of the Law Commission of India, Mr.Dixit, who is presently Chairman of the Madhya Pradesh Law Commission will succeed Justice H.R. Khanna, who resigned in July nhis year.

— The Reserve Bank announced an upward revision of the rupee by 1.43% in relation to pound sterling and fixed the new middle rate at Rs. 17.50 as against Rs. 17.75.

25 Central Bureau of Investigation seized documents from the houses of Chand Ram, former Union Minister and P.N. Balasubramaniam, a businessman.

26 Chief Election Commissioner, S.L. Shakdher, announced at a crowded Press Conference that polling in the election to the Seventh Lok Subha will be held on January 3 and 6. Ten States and eight Union Territories will have a one-day poll, while the remaining twelve States and one Union Territory (Mizoram) a two-day poll.

— India's three-man team won the Boy's title on the fourth day of the ninth Asian Junior Tennis Championships held in Bangkok.

— Kerala Land Reforms (Amendment) Bill, which permits validation of gift deeds and seek to recognise as tenancies certain leases executed after April 1, 1964, was passed by Assembly by a majority of 70-42.

— M. Mallikarjuna Swamy, a former Karnataka Minister, died. He was 51.

— President's rule in the Union territories of Goa, Daman and Diu and Pondicherry was extended upto January 16, next by a Presidential order.

— Prof. C.N. Vakil, the noted economist, died in Bombay. He was 83. Prof. Vakil, who was founder-director of the School of

Economics of Bombay University, was one of the best-known economists of India and was also known abroad.

October 26 Vishwanath Shastri Bhardwaj, a Sanskrit scholar and former professor at Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, died. He was 80.

29 Bhagirath Kanoria, an industrialist and Gandhian worker, died. He was 85. Mr. Kanoria was closely connected with Mahatma Gandhi and was in charge of the Harijan Welfare Fund. He had actively taken part in the old Praja Mandal Movement against the princess of Rajasthan. Mr. Kanoria was associated with many institutions in Calcutta and founded a girls college in Calcutta.

— The Delhi Gurdwara Prabhandak Committee (DGPC) elections ended in a tie with the rival Akali Dal groups failing to get an absolute majority and winning 22 seats each. Two seats in the 46-member committee were won by independents.

— The Election Commission barred the Janata-S from using the name of Lok Dal in the coming Lok Sabha elections.

— Twelve Adivasis were killed and 39 others injured when the truck in which they were travelling clashed against the closed gates of a railway crossing at Sant Road, about 21 km from Ahmedabad.

— Vice-President, M. Hidayatullah left New Delhi for Algeria to represent India at the 25th anniversary of the Algerian revolution.

30 Ved Pal Tyagi, former Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court and ex-Vice Chancellor of the Rajasthan Univessity died. He was 66.

— Twelve people were killed and 50 injured when a crowded balcony of a house collapsed at Phaphuny, a town about 60 km from Etawah.

31 An all-party meeting convened by the Chief Election Commissioner S.L. Shakdher, accepted his proposal that the limit for poll expenses by a candidate for the Lok Sabha poll be raised to Rs. 1 lakh from Rs. 35,000 as at present. For parliamentary constituencies the ceiling of Rs. 1 lakh would apply to Andhra Pradesh Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. In Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Nagaland and Tripura the ceiling would be Rs. 75,000. In Delhi and Pondicherry it would be Rs. 50,000. In Sikkim, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Chandigarh, Goa, Daman and Diu and Mizoram it would be 35,000. In Andaman and Nicobar islands it would be Rs. 25,000 and in Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Lakshadweep, it would be Rs. 15,000. The limit of expenditure for Assembly elections has been likewise raised to a maximum of Rs. 35,000 for smaller States and for Union territories it ranges between Rs. 2,000 and Rs. 25,000.

October 31 The fifth cricket test match played in Calcutta between India and Australia ended in a draw.

— The one-and-a half month old United People's Party Ministry, led by Tom Riba, in Arunachal Pradesh quitted office having been reduced to a minority in the 33-member Assembly following the defection of five of its legislators to the Congress-I.

— The Reserve Bank of India announced a revaluation of rupee by 1.45 per cent as against pound sterling. The spot buying and selling rates have been so fixed as to give a middle rate of Rs. 17.25 per pound sterling as compared to the earlier middle rate of Rs. 17.50. This was the third successive upward valuation of the rupee vis-a-vis pound sterling.

— S.L. Shakdher, Chief election Commissioner, told newsmen after a meeting with political parties that they have agreed to a scheme according to which parties recognised as "national parties and state parties" might be given facilities to broadcast from AIR and Doordarshan stations in every State. The broadcast or telecast will not permit criticism of friendly countries, attack on religious communities, anything obscence and defamatory, incitement of violence, anything amounting to contempt of court and aspersions on the integrity of the President and the judiciary.

— The United States agreed to provide aid worth $ 35 million for some medium irrigation projects in Rajasthan.

November 1 President N. Sanjeeva Reddy inagurated the first 110 MW unit of the Panipat thermal power station.

— UNICEF will assist the Government in setting up three small units to produce a low cost milk substitute based on milk solids and vegetable proteins known as miltone. These units will be set up at Kanpur, Calcutta and Ranchi, with the aim of expanding the supply of nutritious milk products and to reduce the price. The assistance for this project is Rs. 24 lakhs.

2 A shoot-at-sight order came into force at about midnight as miscreants set fire to a couple of huts at Anchepalya near Chamarajpet in Bangalore, where disturbances originated two days ago.

2 Dr. Abdul Alim, a noted Urdu scholar and medical practitioner, died. He was 55. Dr. Alim, who wrote under the pen-name of "Alim Masroor", was the recipient of the Urdu academy award for his work "Bahut Der Kar Dee". It was translated into many languages, including Hindi, Malayalam, Kannada and Marathi.

3 Abdul Ghani Dar, former MP, died. He was 72. Mr. Dar was elected to the Rajya Sabha from Punjab in 1962. He became a member of the Lok Sabha five years later.

November 3 Arunachal Pradesh was brought under President's rule following political instability in the Union Territory. The President has also dissoled the 33-member Assembly.

— The fire which raged for nearly 78 hours in an oil pit near a production well at Ankleshwar was put out. Some equipments were wrecked in the fire but it caused no casualties.

— The President has given his assent to the Kerala Land Gift Deed Validation Bill, a controversial legislation which led to the ministerial crisis and change of the Government in the State.

4 The famous classical singer Mrs. Dargabas Shirodkar, died after a long illness. She was 70.

— P. M. Balen, eminent journalist and former Chief of PTI's North-Eastern Bureau in Shillong, died. He was 75.

5 India signed an agreement with the Government of the Republic of Maldives for air services between their respective territories.

6 Six persons died on the spot and 17 others were injured when a truck of the Western Coalfields met with an accident on the Bilaspur—Ambikapur road, about 15 km from Bilaspur.

7 India wrapped up the final cricket test against Australia by an inning and 100 runs. The match was played in Bombay. This was the first ever series won by India against Australia.

— An Indian Air force Chetak helicopter on a routine flight from a Bombay High offshore platform to Juhu Airport fell into the sea. Of five men on board, two—the pilot Sqn Ldr J. E' Souza and a French national Henry Raux, working for the Oil and Natural Gas Commission were killed.

8 The Indian Oil Corporation staff "suspended" their 14 days go slow agitation and the unions have asked their members to co-operate with the management in ensuring "complete normalcy" in the supply of petroleum products. AITUC leader Y. D. Sharma and INTUC leader Raja Kulkarni told a news conference that the decision was taken in pursuance of an appeal of Petroleum Minister Bala Pajanor.

— M. J. Krishna Mohan, managing director of Mathrubhumi, a prominent Malayalam daily, died.

9 Hukam Chand Oswal, general secretary of the Congress (I) committee was shot dead.

— Krishna Gautam, a Kenyan Indian, created history by getting elected to the Kenyan parliament defeating the sitting member, Wajhira Wareru.

November 9 Three persons, including two BSF personnel and one civilian were killed in a surprise attack by heavily armed Mizo insurgents on a CRPF camp at Ananda Bazar under the Dharmanagar police station at Agartala.

10 Dr. Dhani Ram "Prem", a leading Indian physician and literary figure settled in England for past 50 years, died. Dr. Prem wrote several books in Hindi and was connected with a number of indian associations as well as the liberal party in England.

— Sunil Madhav Sen, noted painter, died. He was 69. A recipient of an award by the Academy of Fine Arts (Calcutta) Mr. Sen exhibited his works both at home and abroad.

— Tenneti Viswanathan, a freedom fighter of Andhra, died after a heart attack. He was 84.

11 President Sanjiva Reddy declared open India's first international trade fair. Twenty-one countries from various regions of the world took part in the month-long fair.

12 About 30 persons were feared died when a private bus carrying pilgrims fell into a hill stream near Gundur in Nelore district (Hyderabad).

— Five of the six passengers travelling in a car were killed and one received minor injuries when a diesel goods train bound for Ernakulam rammed into the car at an unmanned level crossing at Vellachira, between Irinjalakada and Chalakudi, 45 km north of Cochin, on the Ernakulam-Trichur section of Southern Railway.

— The renowned Himalayan saint, Swami Sardhanath, died at Hardwar. He was 67.

13 The Central Government announced productivity-linked bonus for its 1.7 million railwaymen for the current financial year payable in October 1980 thus bringing the controversial issue to a happy ending. As a goodwill gesture the Government agreed to make an ad hoc payment equal to 15 days wages to the workers costing the Railway Ministry Rs. 35 crores. This will be payable before March 1980.

— The Delhi-bound Rajdhani Express from Howrah, the fastest broad gauge train in the country, got derailed near Mirzapur in U.P., as a result of suspected subotage causing minor injuries to 13 people including four railwayman. About 450 passengers and railway employees had a miraculous escape when seven of the nine bogies of the train derailed while approaching Jhingure station on the Mirzapur Mugalsarai section.

— The Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding for 1979 was announced for the South African freedom fighter, Nelson Mandela, a prisoner of the South African regime for the past 16 years. Mr. Mandela has been the foremost South

African leader in the struggle for abolition of apartheid and establishment of equality, freedom and independence in South Africa.

November 13 Miss. Karuna Kana Gupta a renowned educationist and freedom-fighter, died in Calcutta. She was former Principal of Bethune College and Lady Brabourne College, Calcutta, and a deputy-director of public instructions in West Bengal. She was 67. Born in 1912, Miss. Gupta, who had a chequered educational career, joined Dacca University at the age of 21 and was the first to work as a lady lecturer at that time.

— The two-day old strike by the loco maintenance and running staff of the North-Eastern Railway (Lucknow) was called off with immediate effect following a settlement between the Divisional Manager of Railway, L.M. Bhaskar and the employees leaders.

14 Five persons were killed and 57 injured, six of them seriously, when a speeding suburban train (Bombay) of the Central Railway rammed into a stationary train between Natunga and Sion section in Bombay.

— Forty-eight persons, mostly women and children were drowned when a boat capsized in the Narmada off Barkal village, 56 km from Baroda. The occupants of the ill-fated boat belonged to vasad, about 20 km from Baroda. They had gone on a pilgrimage to the Sukhdev temple.

— In a dramatic political developments in Kerala, the league—led mini-Ministry lost its majority and the Opposition staked its claim to form an alternative Government. The withdrawal of support to the Mohammed Koya Ministry by 15-member Kerala Congress (Mani faction) reduced the strength of the rulnig alliance to 61 and swelled that of the Opposition put together to 70.

— President's rule was imposed in Manipur and the State Assembly was dissolved according to official sources. Presidential order was issued following the decision of the Union Cabinet based on the report of the Governor. The Centre also announced that elections to the State Assembly which had already outlived its normal tenure of five years, were expected to be held in the first week of January along with those of Lok Sabha.

— Seven labourers, including four women, were killed and two seriously injured when their truck overturned near Lakhnadon, Soeni district. Truck was carrying cement.

15 India will export 1.8 million pair of shoes and sho-uppers, to the German Democratic Republic worth about Rs. 16.5 crores in 1980, according to a trade protocol signed between the two countries in New Delhi.

November 15 Swami Satprakashanandaji of the Ramakrishna order passed away at St. Louis, Missouri, USA. He was 91.

16 Bonus linked with productivity will be paid to eligible employees of the posts and telegraphs department as well as of Ordinance factories under a scheme patterned on the lines prescribed for railmen. The modalities of the scheme will be determined in talks with representatives of the employees.

— Col. Shivanath Mishra, 85, a first world war veteran and founder of several ex-servicemen's associations in UP died. Col. Mishra fought against the famous German, Gen. Rommel, in the second world war and had won several gallantry awards. Home guards battalions in Madhya Pradesh were raised by him.

— The Delhi High Court confirmed the sentence of death by hanging of Billa and Ranga for the coldblooded murder of teenaged Sanjay Chopra and Geeta Chopra after raping her in the desolate Upper Ridge area in August last year.

— Four miners were killed and 11 injured when a big chunk of roof caved in at the Bakola colliery of Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL), about 15 km. from Asansol.

17 The seven Ministers belonging to the Congress for Democracy and also Abid Ali, Minister for Tourism, who formerly belonged to CFD, resigned from Banarsi Das's Government in Uttar Pradesh.

— M.D. Karkhanawalla, director, Chemicals division in the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Bombay, died. Dr. Karkhanawalla was considered one of the brilliant scientists in BARC, and was closely associated with the atomic energy agency conference to be held in Delhi from December 4.

— The Punjab Government has banned forthwith export of cows from the State to other parts of the country for purposes of slaughtering.

— Six persons were killed on the spot and 20 others injured, some of them seriously, in a head-on collision between an army jeep and a truck at Chazuba town, about 70 kms from Kohima.

18 Dattajirao B. Kadam, 60, former MP prominent congress leader and cooperator from Ichalkaranji, died. Mr. Kadam was mainly responsible for the development of textile and sugar industries in the cooperative sector in the Ichalkaranji area.

— Padampat Singhania, well-known industrialist of UP and president of J.K. Organization, died. He was 74. Mr. Singhania was a member of the constituent Assembly and Governor of the Indian Institute of Technology for several years. Head of the J.K. industries house since 1937, Mr. Singhania had also been president of the Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

November 18 T.V. Singh Thakur, noted Kannada film producer and director, died. Mr. Thakur (67), who had produced over 30 Kannada films, was the receipient of the Presidents' Award Sir his film "Chandavalliya Thota" in 1964.

19 Vachaspatti Pathak, a well-known Hindi writer, died. He was 74.

20 Arun Kumar Budhija, Ambassador of India in Muscat, has been appointed High Commissioner of India to Wellington. He succeeds Baglodi Devarao.

— Captain Mohan Lal, freedom fighter and former member of the U.P. Assembly, died. He had taken a leading part in the formation of the Indian National Army led by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. He was elder brother of P.L. Kureel Talib, member of the Rajya Sabha.

— M.A.K. Tayab took over as the Vice-Chairman of the Delhi Development Authority. He succeeds M.N. Buch.

— Raja of Pithapuram. V.M.G. Rao, died. He was 69. A scholar, poet and patron of sports, he was also the founder of the Brahma Samaj.

21 G. Govinda Pillai, Chief editor of Kerala Pathrika, Trivandrum, died. He was 68. Mr. Pillai was active in the Communist movement in the early days.

— The Congress for Democracy leader. H.N. Bahuguna, formally merged his party wtth Mrs. Gandhi's Congress, thus improving her party's prospects in the coming elections to the Lok Sabha, particularly in U.P. The Shahi Imam of Jama Masjid, Syed Abdullah Bukhari, who has a certain amount of political following in Delhi, also announced that he would support the Congress (I).

— Justice Vinayak Purushottam Dixit, a retired Chief Justice of Madhya Pradesh High Court, has taken over as Chairman of the Law Commission. He succeeded Justice H.R. Khanna, who resigned earlier in July 1979.

— Seven people were killed on the spot when tae Ferozepur-Bombay Central Janata Express collided with a tractor on which they were travelling at an unmanned railway crossing near Maur Mandi, about 40 km from Bhatinda.

22 Shoot-at-sight orders were issued in Lumding town in Nowgong district of Assam as the Government received reports that despite the curfew since November 20, 1979, certain sections of people were being threatened.

November 22 Three persons were killed on the Ahmedabad—Viramgam section of Western Railway due to the collision of two mail trains at Sabarmati.

— Vettah Balakrishna Erady, a judge of the Kerala High Court, has been appointed Chief Justice of that High Court with effect from Jan. 19, 1980.

23 An agreement for aquisition of vertical take-off Sea Harriers for Indian navy's aircraft carrier Vikrant, was signed in New Delhi between the Government of India and the British manufacturers of the aircraft, Hawker Siddly. The Hawker Siddly is owned by the British Government.

— Curfew was clamped in old city of Hyderabad after the police fired twice to disperse a riotous mob that went on a looting and arson spree in the Charminar area as a sequel to the outbreak of violence during the protest hartal against the seizure of the holy shrine in Mecca. On November 24 curfew was imposed in three more cities as the riotous mob indulged in arson and looting for the second day in succession.

— Jagdev Singh Talwandi, President of the Akali Dal and Jiwan Singh Umranangal, Revenue Minister (Punjab), who had been summoned by the "Panj Piaras (five head priests) to appear before them. Earlier, the two Akali leaders appeared before them, admitted their guilt and said they were ready to tender unconditional apology.

— The Petroleum Minister, Bala Pajnoor, left for Mexico and Venezuela in an effect to tie up oil supplies that could save the country upto $ 300 million in import costs.

24 R. K. Bhuwalka, a former member of the Rajya Sabha noted industrialist, philanthropist, educationist and social reformer, died. He was 83. An ardent follower of Mahatma Gandhi Mr. Bhuwalka was closely connected with the old Bengal revolutionaris.

— The sixth triennial convention of the world union, was inagurated in New Delhi by the Vice-President, M. Hidayatullah. He said that a new world order was necessary to usher in an era of lasting peace and for ensuring social and economic equality for the entire humanity.

25 Vijay Amritraj annexed the men's singles title of the $ 75,000 Colgate Grand Prix tennis championship held in Bombay. He defeated Peter Elter of West Germany 6-1, 7-5. The Victory gave Vijay his fourth Grand Prix title in seven years.

26 The first cricket test played between India and Pakistan ended in a draw. The match was played in Bangalore.

November 27 S.A. Dange resigned as Chairman of the Communist Party of India. He was censured by the Party for his overtures to the Congress (I) and congratulating H.N. Banuguna on having joined that party.

— Chand Ram, former Union Shipping Minister, who had joined the Lok Dal two months ago in the hope of becoming the Haryana Chief Minister by toppling the Janata Government in the State, resigned from the Lok Dal complaining that he had been rendered a "political untouchable" by the Lok Dal leaders.

— Shiv Charan Gupta, member of the Delhi Metropolitan Council resigned from the Janata Party and joined the Congress (I).

— Dr. Bhagat Singh, Director Public Instruction has been appointed Vice-Chancellor of Punjabi University, Patiala.

— Godavri Water Dispute tribunal award was announced, according to which almost the entire demand of Madhya Pradesh for use of the Gadavri waters has been accepted. The State has been permitted to use upto 98% of the demand for water made before the tribunal. This would enable the State to irrigate about 4.4 million acres annually and to generate about 37% of the total hydel potential.

November 27 Union Industry Minister K. Brahmananda Reddi and Minister of State for Tourism and Civil Aviation P. Ankineedu Prasada Rao resigned from the Congress Party as well as from the Government following differences with Congress President Devraj Urs. The Congress Parliamentary Board, which met in an emergency session, accepted Mr. Reddi's resignation and described it as "most unjustified, unprincipled and opportunistic"

28 K. H. Patil former President of the Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee resigned from the primary membership of the Party.

— Kerela Chief Minister C. H. Mohammed Koya advised the Governor Mrs. Jothi Venkatacheilum to dissolve the Assembly and to hold fresh elections. The Chief Minister's advice came in the wake of implied threat of the Congress of withdraw its support to his 48 day old Ministry, which could have reduced it to minority.

29 The Congress, led by Devraj Urs was alloted the "Charkha" symbol by the Election Commission.

— India and France signed a programme of co-operation in science and technology for 1980 and 1981.

— Mohan Bagan were crowned the Durand football champions when they eked out a narrow 1·0 victory over Punjab Police at the Ambedkar Stadium in New Delhi.

November	30	Chand Ram, former Minister for Transport and Shipping, joined the Congress (I).
	—	India and Poland signed a trade protocol envisaging a total trade turnover of Rs. 200 crores in 1980. The target for trade turnover set for 1980 is 10 to 11 per cent higher than the target for 1979.
	—	Releasing the Janata Party manifesto at a crowded function in New Delhi, Jagjivan Ram said that the new promises of the party were the employment guarantee scheme in rural areas and allowance to graduate jobseekers against some socially useful work done by them. The Janata leader characterised the manifesto as a continuation of the work done by the Janata Party during the two and a half years of its power and reiteration of promises in the 1977 manifesto.
December	1	Kerala Chief Minister C.H. Mohammed Koya submitted his Ministry's resignation to the Governor.
	—	M. Brahmananda Reddi, along with a number of his followers and supporters joined the Congress (I) A resolution in this behalf was unanimously adopted at a meeting of his followers.
	—	Mrs. Indira Gandhi, while releasing her party's (Congress-I) manifesto, declared that the first task would be "to bring about order, stability and an atmosphere of responsibility." The manifesto promised recognition to Kampuchea, assured restoration of minority status to Aligarh Muslim University and equitable employment opportunities to the minorities in Government services, including Police and Security personnel. The party reiterated emphasis on modernisation of agriculture and freedom of Press.
	2	The 21-day old power engineers strike (UP) was called off, according to the Chief Minister Banarsi Das, who released to the press a copy of a letter written to him by the president of the engineers association, Rajendra Prasad. The announcement of the withdrawal of the strike came shortly after the association president Shailendra Dubey, declared that power engineers of Delhi, Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, and Himachal Pradesh would go on "work to rule" from midnight in support of agitating UP engineers.
	—	Former Karnataka Congress Committee President K.H. Patil, who quit the Congress following the resignation of Brahmananda Reddy from the Party, decided to join the Congress-I along with his followers.
	3	The caretaker Prime Minister Charan Singh and the former Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi were among the prominent leaders to file their nomination papers within hours of the Presidential notification setting in motion the process of elec-

tions to the seventh Lok Sabha in January. The notification issued in the morning called upon the 542 constituencies to elect representatives to the Lok Sabha in accordance with the provision of the Representation of the People Act. The text of the notification read: "Whereas the House of the People was dissolved by the President under Sub-Clase (b) of clause (2) of Article 85 of the August 22, 1979. And whereas a general election has to be held for the purpose of constituting a new House.

December 3 Dr. (Mrs.) Shanta S. Rao, noted Indian scientist in the field of reproductive biology and contraceptive research, died. She was 56. Winner of a number of coveted prizes, Dr. Rao was the director, Institute for Research in Reproduction, Bombay, one of the leading institutes of the Indian Council of Medical Research.

— Hockey wizard Dhyan Chand, who mesmerised the world wilh his brilliant stickwork for more than three decades, passed away. He was 74. Born at Allahabad on August 18, 1905, Dhyan Chand achieved immortal fame with his artistry and skill in hockey Popularly known as "dada" to friends and admirers, he represented India in three successive Olympics—1928 as Los Angles, 1932 at Amsterdam and led the victorious India team in 1936 Berlin Olympic.

— Ram Swarup Yadav, a member of the Uttar Pradesh Vidhan Parishad, died in a road accident. He was 50.

— Twenty-five persons were killed and nearly 100 injured when the Bangalore-bound Mahalakshmi Express from Bombay jumped off the rails near Idlahond flag station. 15 km from Belgaum.

— Zulfikarullah announced his resignation from the Cabinet leading his Muslim National Front (Majlis) into an alliance with the Janata Party in the forth coming Lok Sabha Poll. Both the Minister and Jagjivan Ram at whose residence the announcement was made in presence of several Front and Janata leaders explained that the alliance was without any preconditions.

4 Congress Working Committee member Chandrajit Yadav resigned from the Party in protest against the demand from the Lok Dal more Lok Sabha seats from Uttar Pradesh than it could win and thereby try to scuttle the alliance. He announced later that he had joined the Lok Dal, which had promised to field him from Azamgarh constituency, from where he was defeated twice.

— Murali Jiban Ghosh, a former deputy chief reporter of the Statesman (Calcutta), died. He was 65. A colourful personality Mr. Ghosh started his journalistic career in the now defunct Eastern Express in 1943. In 1946 he joined the Statesman, Calcutta and retired in 1975 as deputy chief reporter.

December 4 Raman Nair Chettur, former managing director of the State Bank of India, died. He was 71. After his retirement from the State Bank of India in 1968, Mr. Chettur served as Chairman and managing director of the Indian Overseas Bank until 1973.

— The rupee was devalued in terms of the pound sterling by 1·4 per cent following the revision by the Reserve Bank of the rates for the purchase and sale of the pound sterling for spot delivery. The RBI has fixed a middle rate of Rs. 17.80 per pound against the earlier rate of 17.55.

— Special stamp has been brought out by the posts and Telegraph Department to commemorate the 23rd General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency being held in New Delhi. The stamp depicting a dove, symbol of peace was released by Prime Minister Charan Singh, who inaugurated the Conference.

5 Four persons were killed, three on the spot and three others seriously injured in Silchar, when a speeding truck knocked down a seven-member band party.

— Kerala was placed under President's rule when a proclamation to this effect was issued in Kerala.

— The ruling alliance at the Centre received yet another jolt when the Congress decided to issue its own election manifesto in protest against the Lok Dal's refusal to concede to it 25 Lok Sabha seats in Uttar Pradesh. The Congress Working Committee, which took this decision, expressed shock and resentment over Chandrajit Yadav's defection to the Lok Dal and decided to stick to its demand with regard to adjustment of seats in Uttar Pradesh.

— The Supreme Court upheld the validity of the Special Courts Act providing for speedy trail of persons who have held high political or public office.

6 Following Mr. Zulfiqarullah's resignation from the Union Government, the External Affairs Minister, S. N. Mishra will also now look after the Union Ministry of Communication while the Labour Minister Fazlur Rahman will handle Wakf Affairs.

— In Nagpur, the agitators demanding renaming of Marathwada University after Dr. B R Ambedkar, went on a rampage, setting on fire two petrol pumps, six cars, a post office and looting several shops. Police opened fire on mobs at four places as a result of which two boys were killed and many people and 24 policemen were injured. A seven hour curfew was clamped in the disturbed areas.

7 Brajeshwar Prasad, a former MP and a prominent freedom fighter, died. He was 69.

December 7 Krishan Mohan Lal, ambassador to Doha has been appointed Ambassador to Algeria succeeding Krishan Kumar Shivsinhji Rana and Lalitendu Mansingh, Counsellor in Brussels has been appointed Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates in succession to Mohammad Hamid Ansari.

8 Assam Government headed by Jogendranath Hazarika was reduced to a minority by the withdrawal of support to it by the Congress (22 MLAS) and the CPI (5 MLAs).

— The Congress (I) President Mrs. Indira Gandhi filed her nomination papers from the parliamentary constituency in Andhra Pradesh,

— Kavisher Harnam Singh, veteran freedom fighter and social worker died. He was 97.

— Prof. R.C. Mehrotra relinquished his office as Vice-Chancellor of Delhi University on the completion of his five-year term.

— Sachindra Lal Ghosh, 73, journalist and author, died. Mr. Ghosh started his journalistic career in 1928 with Swadhinata run by the Jugantar Party. He also served some Calcutta dailies and was the assistant editor of the Delhi Hindustan Standard. He was the editor of Indo-Asian Culture from 1962 to 1972.

9 All 11 Ministers and two parliamentary Secretaries in Assam submitted their resignations to the Chief Minister, Jogendra Nath Hazarika. The resignation came after the Hazarika Ministry was reduced to minority following withdrawal of support by the Congress and the Communist Party of India.

— Anthony Braganza, a double International in hockey and football, died following a heart attack. Braganza represented India in hockey at Kenya in 1952 and at Manila Asian Games in 1954. He also toured the Soviet Union with the Indian football team in 1955.

— The second cricket test match played in New Delhi between Iandia and Pakistan ended in a draw.

— Twelve persons were killed and 31 others injured, when a dumper in which they were travelling fell into a stream, from a culvert near Sargipalli village, 100 km from Sambalpur.

— Work-to-rule by the telecommunication junior engineers which started on November 26 was called off.

10 Justice Vyas Dev Mishra, a judge of the Himachal Pradesh High Court, has been appointed Chief Justice of that High Court with effect from Dec. 12.

December 10 Mother Teresa of Calcutta's Catholic Missionaries of Charity Order received her $ 192,000 Nobel Peace Prize for 1979. She received the prize from the Norwegian Nobel Committee Chairman John Sanness at the ceremony which was televised live in Europe.

— Prof. Jayakrishan Mishra, noted Oriya litterateur and Sanskrit scholar, died. He was 66.

— Rev. Fr. L. D. Murphy, former Principal and Rector of Loyala College, Madras, died. He was 91. Professor of English for over 40 years and a senior member of the Madras University Syndicate, Fr. Murphy, who came to India from England in 1925, was honoured by Queen Elizabeth with the title M. B. E, two years ago in recognition of his services in the field of education.

— Justice S. S. Sandhawalia, Chief Justice of the Punjab and Haryana High Court, was sworn-in as acting Governor of Haryana following the acceptance of Governor H. S. Brar's resignation.

— Vice-President M. Hidayatullah released special stamp to mark the 50 years of flying and gliding movement in the country at the Delhi flying club.

11 Executive Councillor (Medical) K.L. Khurana resigned from the Executive Council in protest against the Union Government "anti Delhi" attitude and "step motherly" treatment to the people of Delhi.

— Madhu Limaye released the Lok Dal's election manifesto in the presence of a virtually mute Charan Singh and Raj Narayan. He described the manifesto as a document with a "distinctive economic policy and programme". He said that the joint manifesto with the Congress was approved but not rleased following differences over adjustments of seats in U.P. The 37-page manifesto deals with 52 subjects ranging from economic policy, law and order and foreign policy to caste system.

— Maj. Gen. Gurbaksh Singh, a highly decorated war veteran, died after prolonged illness. He was 74.

— The nomination paper of the Congress (I) nominee, Begum Abida Ahmed, for the Barpeta Lok Sabha seat were rejected by the returning officer on scrutiny.

— Ramshankar Pande, organising secretary of the Bhojpur District Congress (I) Committee was shot dead.

12 Babubhai Vaidya, opposition leader in the Gujarat Assembly from 1962—1967, died. He was a freedom fighter.

December 12 The President took over the administration of Assam, following the receipt of a report from the Governor of the North-Eastern State, L. P. Singh, recommending imposition of President's rule in Assam and suspension of the State Assembly until a viable Government was formed.

13 The former Governor of Bihar and Andhra Pradesh, R. D Bhandare, resigned from the Congress (I). Mr. Bhandare who has filed his nomination as an Independent candidate from the Bombay Central-north constituency, has also withdrawn from the contest.

— Dr. Earooq Abdullah, a nominee of the National Conference in Jammu and Kashmir, became the first member of the seventh Lok Sabha, having been returned unopposed.

14 The 43-member Bihar Congress (I) Legislature Party finally withdrew its support to the eight-month-old Janata Ministry headed by Ram Sunder Das and demanded its immediate dismissal.

— Nirode (Putu) Chowdhury, former Test cricketer, died. He was 57. Born at Jamshedpur, Mr. Chowdhury, a right-arm medium pace bowler, made his debut against the West Indies in the Madras Test in 1948. He also played against the visiting England team led by Nigel Howard in 1951-52 in the second test at Ferozeshah Kotla, Delhi. He also figured in a number of unofficial test matches against the Silver Jubilee Overseas Cricket Commonwealth team.

15 Eighteen people were killed when a truck plunged into a Khu near Sungra, about 300 km from Simla.

— Keshrimal Shrimal, veteran freedom-fighter, died. He was 75.

16 Five persons were killed and six injured in a jeep-bus collision on the Chapre-Sonepur road near village Bishunpura.

— Girash Marak, a sitting member of the Meghalaya Assembly died.

— Sudhanshu Kumar Basu, editor of the Calcutta evening paper Hindustan Standard, died. He was 67. An eminent journalist with a facile pen, Mr. Basu had dealt with a variety of subjects ranging from politics to Cricket.

17 Gopal Singh Khalsa former opposition leader of the united Punjab, died. He was 74.

— The Government re-introduced dual pricing for sugar with partial control on distribution with immediate of effect in a frantic bid to make sugar available to consumer. Under the present arrangement, the sugar mills will have to release 65 per cent of their production for distribution through fair price shops and remaining 35 per cent into the open market to be sold at prices the market can bear. The levy sugar will be available to consumers through fair price shops throughout the country at uniform price of Rs. 2.85 per kg.

December 18 G. C. Nigam, former Chief of Kanpur bureau of National Herald, died. He was 69.

— M.R. Acharekar, a well known film art director, died. He was 71.

— Noted Urdu short story writer Begum Razia Sajjad Zaheer died. She was 62. She has four novels, over 100 short stories and 40 translations to her credit. Begum Zaheer was the recipient of Soviet Land Nehru award and was actively associated with the progressive writers movement along with her late husband for more than three years.

20 The Delhi High Court quashed the prosecution of Mrs. Indira Gandhi and Pranab Kumar Mukherjee for refusal to depose before the Shah Commission, holding that the Shah Commission has overstepped its authority. In a 347-page judgement on appeals by the former Prime Minister and her Ministerial colleague, Mr, Justice T.P.S. Chawla set out a dozen grounds for quashing their trail in the court of Delhi's Chief Metropolitan Magistrate.

— India raced to a dramatic 131-run victory over Pakistan with more than a day to spare in the third cricket test played in Bombay.

— Noted vocalist Kamala Jharia, died. She was 73. Kamala, who was among the few artistes associated with the Calcutta station of AIR during its early stages, had been living a retired life for the last decade. Kamala had recorded hundreds of classical songs, Nazrul geet and Kirtans.

21 N.R. Pathak, noted historian and Marathi writer, died. He was 86.

— The Delhi High Court allowed the Union of India to go in appeal to the Supreme Court against its order of 20th December quashing proceeding against Mrs. Gandhi and Pranab Mukherjee for their alleged refusal to testify before the Shah Commission.

— The international Fund for Agricultural Development approved a loan of $ 55-million to India as part of the 10 loans and grants, it announced for food production projects in Africa, Asia and Latin America. The major emphasis in India is on a large irrigation scheme in Rajasthan which also involves rural settlement over a desert region of about 250,000 hectares.

December 21 President Sanjiva Reddy released a commemorative stamp to make the quincentenary of the birth of Guru Amar Das, one of the ten Gurus and third in succesion to Guru Nanak.

— Raj Krishna Manucha, has been appointed Ambassador of India to North Korea in succession to Joseph Thomas Kallukaren.

— In an unprecedented action, over 6,000 officers/staff of the Reserve Bank of India in its 22 offices in the country, including 2,000 at the RBI headquarters in Bombay, resorted to en masse casual leave, bringing work in this Central Banking Institution to a near standstill.

— An agreed minute of the Inter-Government meeting on railway matters was signed in Dacca between India and Bangladesh.

22 Dr. Mohan Sinha Mehta, a distinguished educationist, scholar and diplomat, has been selected for the 1979 award of the National Federation of the UNESCO Association in India.

— Two AI-ADMK Ministers-Bala Pajanor and Mrs. Sathyavani Muthu, resigned from the Union Cabinet, as their resignations were demanded by the Prime Minister Charan Singh.

— Former Bihar and Andhra Pradesh govenor, R D. Bhandare, who was in the Congress (I) till recently, announced that he had joined the Janata Party.

— Gurandittamal Mehra (79), a leading industrialist, died. Mr. Mehra, one of the former directors to a well-known woollen mill, was also founder president of two women's colleges, and was connected with several social welfare organisations.

— Four passengers of a bus were killed and 16 others injured when the bus crashed into a stationary truck at a bus stand at Etmadpur, 24 km from Agra.

23 Harkrishna Joshi, popularly known as Appaji Joshi, passed away.

— Badminton maestro Prakash Padukone of Karnataka won the men's singles title for the ninth consecutive year when he beat Syed Modi of the Railways 15-8, 15-7, in the final of the 44th National Badminton Championship.

— Four persons were killed and 27 injured when a Ludhiana-bound Punjab roadways bus fell into a 200 feet deep Khud, 27 km from Mandi-Chandigarh road.

— N. Sethuraman, a former member of Parliament and the Vice-President of the Pondicherry Congress (I), died. He was 60. Mr. Sethuraman was also the President of the Pondicherry Historical Society.

December 22 T.S. Ramaswami Iyer, 94, the first Mayor of Madras, died. Mr. Iyer was the recipient of the Kaiser-i-Hind gold medal for his public service from the then British Government. He was awarded Padma Bhushan in 1966. He was also the founder Vice-President of the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association and Tamil Nadu Hockey Association.

23 A.M. Tariq, a former Chairman of the Indian Motion Pictures Export Corporation, died. He was 57. Mr. Tariq served the G.M. Sadiq Ministry In Jammu and Kashmir from 1964 to 1966 as Minister for Tourism and Information. Later, he was member of the Rajya Sabha.

— Eighteen people including three engine crew, were killed and 25 injured when the Gauhati-Dhubri passenger train crashed into the stationery A.T. Mail between Patsala and Sarupeta stations. 116 km from Gauhati.

24 K.K. Khadilkar, a labour leader, died. He was 61. Mr Khadilkar, a bachelor, was the founder member of the AITUC then INTUC and finally of the Hind Mazdoor Sabha. He was. secretary of the National Union of Seafarers and held the post, till his death. He was also secretary of "The times of India" Employees Union for sometime as well as some of the pharmaceutical and cosmetic companies.

— The veteran Congress leader and a close associate of Mahatma Gandhi, Satish Chandra Dasgupta, died. He was 100. Known as Sodepur Gandhi, Mr. Dasgupta was a recipient of the prestigious Jamunalal Bajaj award.

25 Prof. D.P. Chattopadhya, Congress member of the Rajya Sabha and former Commerce Minister in Mrs. Indira Gandhi's Cabinet, has been admitted to the Congress(I) Party "at his request."

26 Bengal retained the Santosh Trophy beating Punjab by a soiltary goal in the final of the National Football Championship. The match was held in Coimbatore.

27 Amrita Pritam shared the "Nikola Vaptsarov" prize with four other writers of the world, according to a Bulgaria press release.

— Kisan Veer, a freedom fighter and a close associate of the Deputy Prime Minister Y.B. Chavan, died. He was 74.

28 The annual trade protocol for 1980 between India and Russia was signed in New Delhi. It envisages a trade of about Rs. 1,900 crores.

— The Jnanpith award for 1978 was presented to Sachchidan and Vatsayan (Ageya) by Mrs. Rukmini Devi Arundale. The award was given by the trustees of Bhartiya Jnanpith for his book "Kitni Navon Mein Kitni Bar".

December 28	The Madhya Pradesh RSS Chief, Ram Narain Shastri, died. He was 68.
29	Jeevanrao Yalagi, a freedom fighter and associate of Lokamanya Tilk, died. He was 86. Mr. Yalagi was imprisoned for a total of about 13 years during the freedom struggle.
—	The Lok Dal Government of UP led by Banarsi Das got a setback with the resignation of the Rural Development Minister, Jamuna Prasad Bose.
—	V.S. Bapat, veteran journalist and labour leader, died. He was 65. Mr. Bapat was editor of "Shramikanchi Vatchal" (Workers Progress) a magazine in Marathi and Hindi devoted to the cause of labour.
30	Ajit Kumar Datta, noted Bengal poet, died.
—	The fourth Cricket test between India and Pakistan ended in a draw at Kanpur with the final day's play being washed out owing to heavy overnight rain.
—	P.L. Roy, President of the Bengal Amateur Boxing Federation, died. He was 81. Mr. Roy, known as the father of Indian boxing, had his education in England. He was the first Indian to receive"blue" and win the Inter-University Championship by knocking his opponent in ten seconds.
31	Former Chief Minister of erstwhile PEPSU, Gian Singh Rarewala died. He was 72. Mr. Rarewala was the first non-Congress Chief Minister in the country when he headed the PEPSU Ministry in 1950.
—	The nation's standard time has been corrected by the National Physical Laboratory and clocks set back by one second for 1980. The correction was considered essential for studies in astronomy, astrophysics, space physics and for day-to-day working.
—	Sri Sriman Tridandi Narayana Ramanuja Teer Swamy (70) passed away.

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